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New Gila Valley Temple

Among those eagerly awaiting the May 23 dedication and May 24 opening of The Gila Valley Temple is the new temple presidency, including (l to r) first counselor, Terry Joe Bingham, his wife, assistant matron Connie Bingham; President Keith Crockett, his wife and temple matron, Kathleen McBride Crockett; and second counselor, Kent Woods, and his wife, assistant matron Ann Lee Woods.



Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

Also in this issue:

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Arizona Saints Anticipate Opening of New Temple in the Gila Valley

The Gila Valley Temple, with its beautiful 24-foot tall, precast, white concrete walls with a textured design, and a spire with the Angel Moroni, is nearing completion and is scheduled for a public open house that will begin April 23.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Following the October 1927 dedication of the Mesa Arizona Temple, it was nearly 75 years before Arizona Latter-day Saints would enjoy the blessings of a second temple in the state.

A smaller temple in Snowflake was dedicated in March 2002. Then, six years later, in April 2008, President Thomas H. Monson

announced that the number of temples in Arizona would double—with a new temple in the Gila Valley and another in Gilbert.

Just a month later, in May 2008, a temple was announced for Phoenix.

Since the announcement of three new temples, the enthusiasm for temple work has mounted and Saints across

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the entire state have looked forward with eager anticipation to the completion of these sacred edifices.

That anticipation is now reaching new heights in Graham County as ground was broken for The Gila Valley Temple in February 2009 and construction is nearing completion, with the opening for temple work scheduled for May 24, 2010.

Keith Crockett, 75, of the Pima 1st Ward, Pima Arizona Stake, has been called as president of The Gila Valley Temple. His wife, Kathleen McBride Crockett, will serve as temple matron.

President Crockett was born in Pima, just down the road from Central, Arizona, where the new temple is located. He worked in the Church Education System, including serving as Institute Director at Eastern Arizona College for more than 15 years. In 1993 through 1996, he and his wife served in the Argentina Buenos Aires South Mission, where he was the Mission President. In 2000, President Crockett was called to the Second Quorum of the Seventy and served in the presidency of the South America South Area. Previously he had been a stake president, a member of the stake presidency, high councilor and

temple ordinance worker. He was serving as a sealer in the Mesa Arizona Temple and stake patriarch when he was called as the new temple president.

In addition to missionary service with her husband, Sister Crockett has served as Relief Society humanitarian quilting specialist, a counselor and board member in the stake Relief Society, ward Young Women president and adviser, teacher, temple ordinance worker and organist.

President Crockett says, "It was prophesied years ago that

there would be a temple in the Gila Valley, ever since the Saints came in 1879 to settle in Pima they have looked forward to this."

Now, he says, "The people here are getting so excited;" and the enthusiasm is apparent in his own voice as President Crockett adds, "It's really going to be beautiful. The walls are 24-foot tall, precast, white concrete, with a textured design in the casting. It really looks beautiful."

Terry Joe Bingham will serve as the first counselor in the new temple presidency, with his wife, Connie, as assistant matron. The Bingham's are members of the Safford 7th Ward, Safford Stake. He was recently released as the stake patriarch and is serving as a sealer in the Mesa

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The Gila Valley Temple will be presided over by a presidency that represents many years of dedicated service, and each of the couples hail from a different part of the Gila Valley. (L to r) First counselor, Terry Joe Bingham, his wife, assistant matron Connie Bingham are from the Safford Stake; President Keith Crockett, his wife, temple matron Kathleen McBride Crockett, reside in the Pima Stake; and second counselor, Kent Woods, and his wife, assistant matron Ann Lee Woods are members of the Thatcher Stake.

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Arizona Temple. His previous callings include serving as the bishop, bishop's counselor and as stake president.

"I've always had a love for the temple ever since I can remember," Brother Bingham says. That love was heightened when he and his wife were called to serve in the Palmyra New York Temple.

"There the spirit of Joseph was so strong, so powerful. The temple looks over the Sacred Grove and you really feel the spirit of the beginnings of the work. It was just a special time," he says.

Brother Bingham believes their experience at The Gila Valley Temple will be equally as rewarding.

"The Gila Valley people are such a good, temple-going people. It's going to be great to work with them right here in our own temple and to feel the love for the temple that they have also."

The second counselor in The Gila Valley Temple presidency is Kent Woods. A Thatcher native, Kent and his wife Ann Lee Woods, are members of the Thatcher 3rd Ward in the Thatcher Stake.

He says he and Ann, who will serve as assistant matron, have developed a great love for the temple, particularly over the last four years as they have served as ordinance workers.

"We have really come to appreciate the blessings of the temple and to understand its significance," he says. "I always enjoyed going, but to really have it settle

in and really bless your life, you have to go often. The key is participation."

Brother Woods adds, "I hope with the temple closer now, more young couples with children at home can take an hour and a half off to go to a session, and old people who are not able to drive to Mesa can now do the same."

"People will be able to come here and be home in the time it takes now to drive one way to Mesa," President Crockett says.

He adds, already, the Saints are demonstrating their excitement about having a temple in their midst.

"There is a great feeling of anticipation. People are calling all the time to see what they can do to help. One sister has crocheted eight altar cloths for the temple," he says. "A group of Mia Maids have made ribbon bows

Gila Valley Temple Dates of Interest

April 2008
Temple Announced

February 2009
Temple Ground Breaking

September 2009
Angel Moroni installed

April 23- May 15, 2010
Public Open House
(excluding Sundays)

May 22, 2010
Gila Valley Cultural
Celebration

May 23, 2010
Temple Dedication

May 24, 2010
Temple formally opens
for ordinance work

with flowers for young girls who will be sealed to their parents."

"Everyone wants to participate," he says, adding, "The feeling of wanting to have names ready for temple work is even increasing more and more. People are going to the Family History Center, so, when we start, people will have their own family names to begin with. We see that as a real blessing to us."

From its location in Central—between Pima and Thatcher along Highway 70—The Gila Valley Temple will serve the Saints of southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico, some who currently travel 150 miles or more to attend the temple in Mesa or Albuquerque.

The temple district will encompass seven stakes with a total of approximate-

ly 32,000 members: the Pima Arizona Stake, Thatcher Arizona Stake, Safford Arizona Stake, Duncan Arizona Stake, St. David Arizona Stake, Sierra Vista Arizona Stake, and Silver City New Mexico Stake.

The groundbreaking ceremony for The Gila Valley Temple was held on February 14, 2009, the 97th anniversary of Arizona becoming a state. Elder Neil L. Andersen, then of the Presidency of the Seventy and now a member of the Quorum of the Twelve, presided at the groundbreaking ceremony. On September 22, the building took its final height and form as the spire and a gold-leafed statue of the angel Moroni were installed that day.

A public open house with tours of The Gila Valley Temple will be held Friday, April 23, to Saturday, May 15, 2010 (excluding Sundays).

In conjunction with the temple dedication, a cultural celebration featuring music and dance by youth throughout the temple district will commemorate the heritage of the Gila Valley. The cultural event will be held May 22 at Mickelson Stadium at Eastern Arizona College.

The temple will be dedicated in three sessions (9 a.m., 12 noon, and 3 p.m.) on Sunday, May 23. Tickets and instructions for attending the dedication will be made available through local priesthood leaders. The temple formally opens for ordinance work Monday, May 24.



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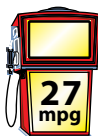
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Mesa Doctor Returns to the Land of his Mission to Help People in Haiti

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

When an earthquake of catastrophic magnitude hit Haiti on January 12, a small group of LDS doctors—one from Mesa—immediately gathered supplies and made arrangements to go. Their skills were needed. Besides, there were people there they knew and loved.

Dr. Charles S. Peterson, a member of the Highland Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake, had served in the Haiti Port-au-Prince Mission 20 years ago.

He was still in regular contact with other former missionaries, several of whom had gone on to become doctors as well.

A sports medicine doctor, Dr. Peter-

son wasn't in Arizona when the disaster struck. He had already been away from home for several days, in Deer Valley, Utah, where he was traveling and “on call” with the U.S. Ski Team. Still, he and the others knew they had to go.

“There was really no decision-making process. It was something we all had to do,” Chuck says.

Transportation into the country was nearly impossible, communication poor and the political red tape had gone up almost immediately following the quake.

Still, says Chuck, “We were put to the top of the list because we were able to speak the language;” and things started falling into place to make their trip possi-



Photo courtesy of Dr. Charles Peterson

In Haiti after the recent earthquake, a group of LDS doctors who had served their missions in Haiti, went to help in Leogane, where 90 percent of the buildings were destroyed and thousands were in need of medical care. In Leogane, left to right, are Patricia, Dr. Steve Hansen of Utah, Leogane Bishop Yves Pierre-Louis, Dr. Gary Garner of Utah and Dr. Charles Peterson, of Mesa.

ble, including their coming across Jeremy Johnson, a philanthropist from Utah, who, Chuck says, provided the helicopters and actually flew the team into Haiti.

Chuck and Utah doctors Gary Garner, Steven Hansen and Craig Nelson were

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Mesa Doctor Returns to Haiti Continued from pg. 7

in the first wave. Tim Mooney, a surgeon from Reno, Nevada, and Stan Phillips, another Utah doctor joined them later.

They flew into Jacmel, near the epicenter, but found a lot of other doctor groups already there. So, they went on to Leogane, a town where 65,000 people had lived, and where Dr. Peterson had served as Branch President when he was a missionary.

"Leogane had people lying all over, 90 percent of the homes had fallen down," he says. "The helicopter put down in a soccer field near the chapel. As the helicopter lowered, the field was surrounded by thousands of people wanted help."

Chuck continues, "We had no plan, had made no contact with anyone. We ran over to the chapel ... We dropped our bags and began taking care of patients."

"We were seeing patients in the chapel, in the cultural hall. We didn't even know where we were going to stay," he adds.

The Logane Ward bishop, Yves Pierre-Louis, brought in mattresses and clean sheets, while Relief Society sisters made them rice and beans for dinner.

In an e-mail to his wife, Gayla (Garn), Chuck wrote:

"We have great security in Leogane, locked in the church behind gates. ... Food is tough, but the ward made a wonderful dinner for us. ... Literally 90 percent of Leogane is damaged, many houses pancake flat, people underneath.

All the schools collapsed with students inside. Hardly a family was not touched somehow. Eddy, my ward clerk from back in the day, lost his 10-year-old son. It is so shockingly grim, tragic, and sad that I can't explain. It's an insane situation, but the people are very calm and gracious. They are courageously strong. This was one of my most fulfilling days in my life, just today makes the trip worth it. So many people are broken and cut, many badly infected. Some will require amputation. I love you and miss you. But I'm where I'm supposed to be. This is why I went to medical school."

The entire week was filled with more heartache and horrendous sights and smells than Dr. Peterson could have ever imagined.

Sill, he says, the many miracles came in countless forms: A group of very different people—a dentist and a doctor from Haiti, a group of Mennonites, Bavarians from Germany and the LDS doctors—all worked together. The doctors were able to help bring 83 orphans out of the country and into the United States where families who had made arrangements before the earthquake were waiting to adopt them.

For Dr. Peterson, perhaps the greatest miracle was what he experienced personally. "There was so much to do, it was unfathomable," he says, "and, yet, we never felt stronger or more unified."

"We felt the power of everyone's prayers, and we experienced wisdom and strength beyond what we had ourselves."



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LDS Woman Named Phoenix Art Museum “Docent of the Year”

By Brenda Govey
The Beehive

Peggy Seletos, of the Bellair Ward, Glendale North Stake, is the current Docent of the Year at the Phoenix Art Museum.

Peggy expresses her love for art, saying, “I see art as one of the great compensations we’ve been given to enrich us in mortality. I think of the scripture in the Doctrine and Covenants about things of the earth that have been created to ‘please the eye and gladden the heart.’ It seems to me, in a small way, man echoes God’s creative powers through the arts. Being a docent has broadened my view of the world and of



Photo by Dina Wakely

Peggy Seletos, of the Glendale North Stake, is the Phoenix Art Museum’s Docent of the Year.

the worth of many different cultures and means of expression.”

A docent is a guide and the Phoenix Art Museum currently has more than 250 of them. These dedicated volunteers provide tours for those who visit the museum, located on the corner of Central Avenue and McDowell Road. No prior art knowledge is needed to become a docent. Being selected “Docent of the Year” is an honor awarded annually to one volunteer after years of

dedicated service to the museum.

Sister Seletos attributes her appreciation

Continued on pg. 13

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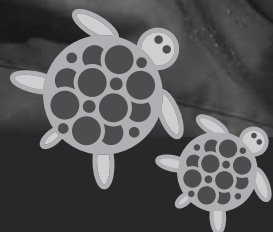
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Mesa Easter Pageant Grows in Numbers *and Influence*

By Cecily Markland
 The Beehive

Bring up the subject of the Mesa Easter Pageant and you'll find that nearly everyone has a story—of being touched by the Pageant, participating in the cast, or inviting a friend to the Pageant and seeing them subsequently join the Church.

The Pageant, recognized as the largest annual outdoor Easter pageant in the world, is also well known for the way it moves and inspires individuals, for the miracles that are part of its production.

Don Evans, recently released as Stake President of the Mesa Mountain View Stake, has been called as the new Pageant President.

"Our hope is that everyone who attends will feel the spirit of it," says President Evans. "The Pageant enables people to have a witness of Christ, and for those who are not members to walk away with a favorable impression of the Church."

Nanci Wudel is no newcomer to this miraculous process, as this is her 15th year to participate. Nanci served as narrator for two years, then as an assistant director for four years prior to being called as Pageant Director in 2002. Jef

Rawls and Jenee Wright Prince serve as assistant directors.

Nanci says, "It is a tremendous and humbling honor for all of us who participate in the Pageant, in even the smallest way, to present a portion of the life and mission of the Savior. The power of His life and the beauty of His teachings uplift and edify everyone—staff, cast, and audience."

Nanci adds, "One of the great joys of my life is to help bring this message to so many of His children."

This year a third of the staff and crew and many of the principal actors are new to the Pageant. A record number of cast members are participating this year, and a total of 85 percent have never been in the Pageant before. The nearly 450 cast members were selected from more than 900 that applied.

As the pageant continues to grow in size, Pageant leaders hope the scope and influence will continue to increase.

"Each year, we try to make this presentation even more inspirational than the year before. This year will be no exception," Sister Wudel says.

President Evans says a letter has gone

out to area bishops about possible protests at the Pageant.

"We are wanting to remind members to be respectful. They shouldn't be engaging these people. Confronting them would only do damage," President Evans says.

The Pageant begins with a public-invited dress rehearsal on Tuesday, March 16, with the presentation in English at 7 and Spanish at 8 p.m. All subsequent performances begin at 8 p.m., with Spanish presentations Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27 and English presentations on Wednesday and Thursday, March 24 and 25 and Tuesday through Saturday March 30 through April

3. American Sign Language translation will be offered March 24 through 27. Organized youth groups are asked to come on March 24 or 25 only.



Photo by Richard Webb

The Mesa Easter Pageant, the largest outdoor Easter pageant in the world, with a cast of 450 this year, tells the story of the mission of Jesus Christ, beginning with His birth as depicted above, and continuing through His life, the miracles He performed and His glorious resurrection.



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LDS Musician Creates CD as

"A Simple Gift of Love"

for Mesa Friend

By Cecily Markland
 The Beehive

She calls it "A Simple Gift of Love." Yet, the CD Tricia Swanson released just a few months ago is far from simple in the eyes of Kristi Sherwood Crum.

Kristi Sherwood Crum was raised in Mesa. As juniors at Mesa High School, she and Tricia became good friends. They sang in the school's madrigal choir, served on the seminary council and marched on the drill team together.

Today, Kristi says, though Tricia now lives in Utah and she still lives in Mesa, "Even over all the miles and all the years, the friendship, love and concern is all still there. Time and miles don't make that go away."

That friendship has been strengthened as they have supported one another in good times and in bad, especially the challenges Kristi has endured during the last few months.

To fully understand what she is facing requires going back 34 years when Kristi married Phil Sherwood. They went on to raise four children together and Phil served as the bishop in their ward. But, in 2002, Phil was diagnosed with lung

cancer and passed away just over a year later.

Kristi asked her good friend, Tricia, to sing at the funeral, a song Kristi had written called "Be Still." Kristi later wrote a book titled, *The Little Stream*, which was inspired by Phil's example of service and giving.

Kristi moved forward with her life, then, four years ago married Richard Crum, of Mesa, who also had lost his spouse to cancer. Together, their family includes 10 children and 24 grandchildren.

Then, in March 2009, Kristi began having health problems of her own. The unimaginable news came. Kristi was diagnosed with lung cancer, the very same illness that had taken Phil's life six years earlier.

Again, her friend, Tricia, found a way to help. "One of my voice students said, 'Why don't you make a CD, sell it and have the proceeds go to her and her family,'" Tricia says.

She resisted the idea at first. "I thought, 'I can't. It would cost too much, take too much time.' I had all those

excuses. But, the Lord said, 'You're going to do this.'"

The project soon began to consume Tricia's life and her thoughts.

"I could not believe the power that kept pushing me," she says.

Tricia took every decision to the Lord. "I prayed about each song," she says. "I wanted it to uplift Kristi and all those who would listen to it.

It wasn't until "A Simple Gift of Love" was nearly ready that Tricia told Kristi about the project.

"She bawled. It was very emotional for both of us. It was a tender, tender experience," Tricia says.

She calls it a privilege to release this CD and has been thrilled to see it sell well enough that she has donated \$10,000 to the expensive care Kristi is undergoing.

"People have been very generous, so kind, so concerned, so touched by the story. It's amazing how they have come forward and helped," Tricia says.



Photo courtesy of Lila Shoemaker

Tricia Swanson (l) of Salt Lake, who has been friends with Kristi Sherwood Crum (r), of Mesa, since high school has released a CD, called "A Simple Gift of Love," to honor of Kristi and to help provide funds for Kristi's fight against cancer.

In addition to raising money, Tricia hopes the CD will be a tribute to Kristi's life. "She is so happy and so positive, so content. I love how happy she is and how she makes me feel. It's so fun to be her friend."

"Daily miracles tell me the Lord has something in mind for me," Kristi says.

"I love life. I think Heavenly Father wants us to love life. I think he expects us to fight for life."

To learn more about Kristi, to hear sample songs, order "A Simple Gift of Love" or make a donation to Kristi, log on to www.TriciaSings.com

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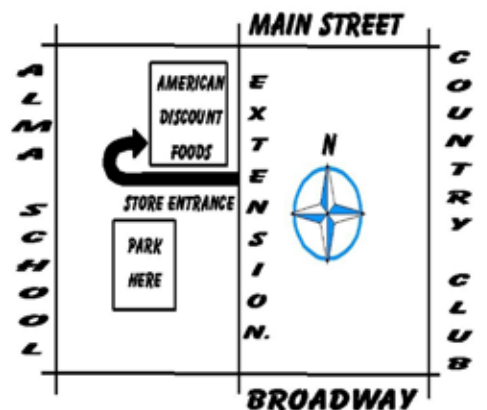
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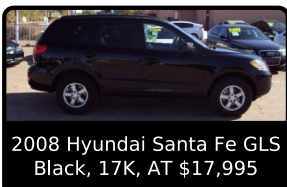
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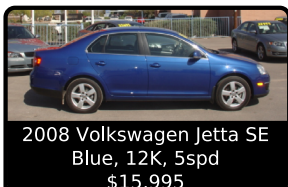
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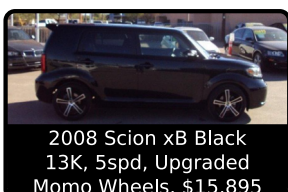
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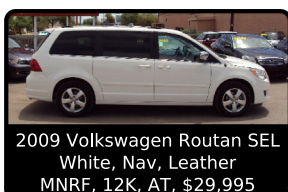
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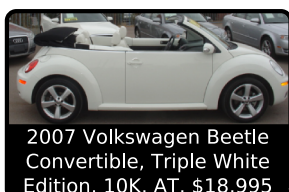
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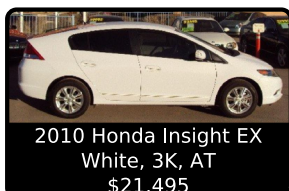
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Ways to Help the People in Haiti

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

As one of the LDS doctors who went to provide medical care in Haiti in the first few days after the devastating earthquake, Dr. Charles Peterson, of Mesa, says there is still much that individuals can do.

"Many groups are still going down there," he says, noting that plumbers, electricians, engineers and anyone who knows a trade are particularly needed.

He says two organizations he knows

of are highly ethical and effective and are organizing trips to Haiti. One, called Healing Hands for Haiti (see www.healinghandsforhaiti.org) was started by Dr. Jeff Randle of Utah. The other, Chuck says, is run by Haitians and is called International Aid Serving Kids (see www.iask4kids.org).

As far as individuals sending supplies or hygiene kits, Dr. Peterson says, "The logistics of that just don't work," adding that larger organizations, and particularly the Church Humanitarian Services, are much better equipped to help in this way. (See www.lds.org)

Chuck adds that if individuals were to

send anything, "Send money." He says, before the team of doctors left for Haiti, "Ward members, friends and family gave us money. The majority of that money we gave to Church leaders in Haiti" so they could use it to help local members.

LDS Woman "Docent of the Year" Continued from pg. 9

tion for art to a teacher. "My high school humanities teacher opened my mind to the humanities as an academic discipline," Peggy relates.

Becoming a Phoenix Art Museum docent has enabled her to meet many people throughout Phoenix. "I cherish my friendships and associations with docents from many different backgrounds. That is a great joy," she explains.

She also credits her museum involvement with improving her speaking and teaching skills. "I have learned much from my fellow docents about meeting deadlines, following through on commitments and honorably doing my best when I've been entrusted with a responsibility. I have grown in my Church callings and assignments as a result of this training."

Many of Peggy's tours are with school groups, particularly teens. "I enjoy watching them discover that everyone has an eye for art and that pure learning—without pressures of tests or worksheets or papers—is really fun."

Peggy encourages others to volunteer, saying, "Becoming a docent is a great gift you give yourself. It's a gift of learning and personal development. Our training program gives you all the tools you need to prepare yourself to do the work, and you will have help and support from many docents every step of the way. The Church will have taught you valued skills you bring to the docents, such as the ability to organize, conduct a meeting, teach and speak before a group and to work cooperatively with others in a common cause."

Sister Seletos has served in Relief Society both in presidencies and as a teacher. She remembers, "Years ago when we had cultural refinement lessons in Relief Society, I used to bring in slides of art objects to accompany my lessons. I guess I was prefiguring my life as a docent. That was in Los Angeles and I was delighted to learn that as a result of the art discussions we had in those lessons, a number of women in my ward became members of the art museums in town."

Peggy has been a docent since 1993. She and her husband, Louis, have three adult children. Peggy currently serves as the stake prison chaplain at a federal women's prison camp near Phoenix.

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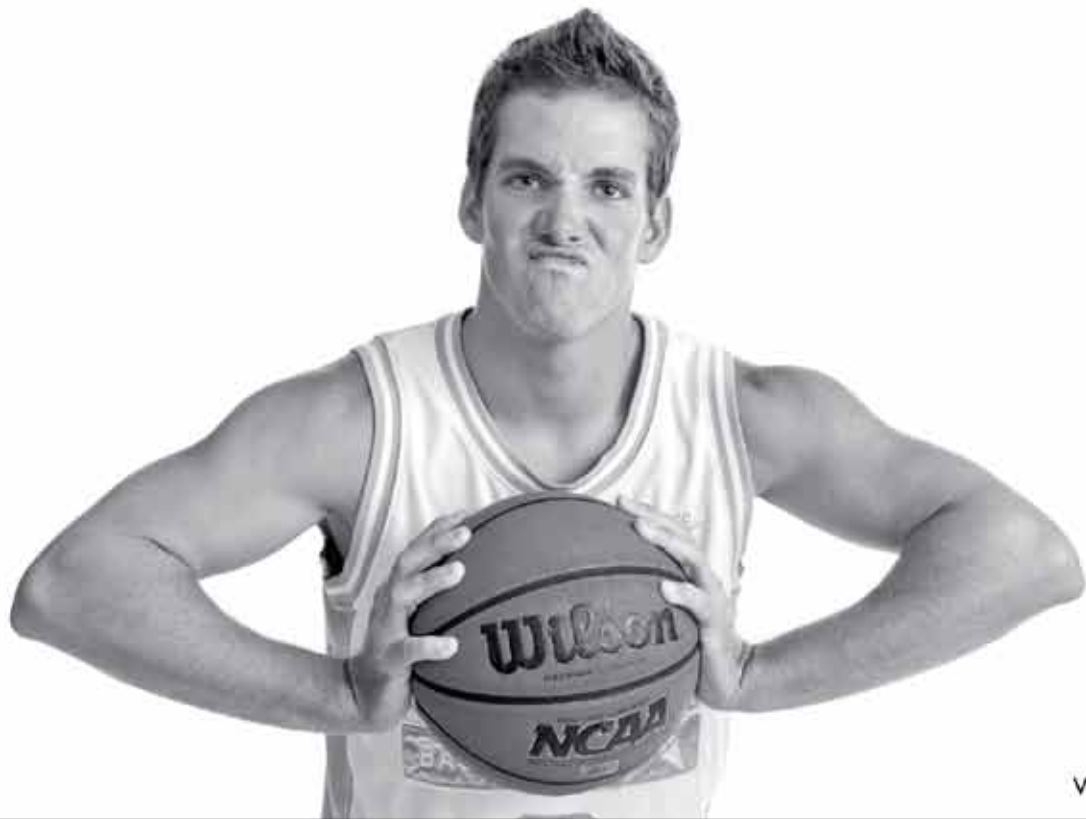
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Group Sheds **LIGHT** while Lightening Burdens for Others

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

A group of young, highly professional performers lighten hearts with top-quality music and choreography. At the same time, they lighten the financial burdens of organizations.

The group is called LIGHT, an acronym for "Learn from everyone, Inspire others, Give selflessly of time and energy, Honor and love those around us, and Talents are to share," says founder and director, Tim Filicia.

Started in 2002, LIGHT is a 28-member group made up high school students. The main unit is supported by two additional groups: Rise, which is composed of high school juniors and seniors, and Ambassadors of LIGHT, a 12-member group of college students who previously were members of LIGHT.

Participants come from across the Valley, bringing a combination of talent and

experience that serves to enrich the group. The group's primary objective is to "share the gospel through music," Tim says.

LIGHT has shared that message across the nation. In many instances, the concerts they present are fundraisers for one cause or another, including cancer, Down syndrome, Alzheimer's.

LIGHT has opened for well-known groups and participated in the Mrs. America Pageant on national television and the Presidential Inauguration and other such events.

"We want to entertain," Tim says, "but, we're always looking, thinking, 'What else can we do to further someone's cause?'"

In recent months, those efforts have focused on holding exchange concerts with high schools and junior high schools.



Photo courtesy of LIGHT

The award-winning LIGHT Entertainment Company dazzles audiences with their upbeat tunes, harmonious sound and entertaining choreography--in shows that often are presented as a benefit for a cause or an organization, and especially for music programs for other high schools across the western United States.

"Their choirs perform with us, which gives parents added reason to come," Brother Filicia says. Typically all three of the groups participate, "depending on

what the hosting school wants, how much they want to participate themselves."

They've held these exchange concerts

Continued on pg. 15

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Group Sheds Light Continued from pg. 14

in Tucson, northern Arizona and East High School in Salt Lake City. Proceeds go back to the host school, while members of LIGHT get the benefits of having opportunities to perform and of helping programs in need.

LIGHT also shares their exceptional talents with retirement communities and other places where their positive attitude and upbeat performances do much to uplift and inspire. They also are constantly looking for ways to sharpen their skills and demonstrate their abilities.

"We're competing in two national competitions in March—in show choir festivals against many of the best groups in the country," Tim says, adding, "We've done really well in the past, and some years we haven't done as well. ... But, if you give everything, it doesn't matter what the judges say."

"These kids have a team spirit about them. They love to be together, love to do things to help others," Tim says.

In their next public appearance, LIGHT, Rise and Ambassadors of LIGHT will combine to present what Brother Filicia says is "a real fun show"

on March 27 and 28 at Desert Ridge High School. The show, called "Broadway Tonight," includes show tunes and classic hits. For tickets, contact a member of LIGHT or go to www.lightentertainment.com.

Formal auditions begin in April, and Tim says, "We're always looking for young people who have direction, know who they are and want to serve, are talented, enjoy being with others and enjoy working hard to create a great show."

Tim says much credit for the group's success should go to Celeste Ripley, the main choreographer, and assistant choreographer, Lauren Filicia. He adds, "Our parent committee is just incredible," with Melanie Nelson, head of the parent organization, and Lynda Thaxton and Susanne Mendenhall, who oversee the nonprofit aspects.

"There are so many kids and so many parents who have done so many things for the group over the years—more people than I can even think of who help us," Tim says.

To learn more about the March event, inquire about having LIGHT participate in an event, or schedule an audition, visit www.lightinternationalinc.org or call Tim Filicia at 480-227-9402.

Other Family-Friendly Activities for Visitors to The Gila Valley Temple Open House

Individuals and families planning to visit Graham County for the open house of The Gila Valley Temple between April 23 and May 22, can find many other family-friendly activities and sites of interest in the area.

The temple is located in Central, surrounded by the historic, small communities of Pima, Thatcher and Safford, where you can find small-town friendliness, family-style restaurant and an array of activities, all at affordable prices.

There are over 4 million acres of scenic terrain in Graham County including parks, wilderness areas, national forests, lakes, rivers and hot springs. There are places for bike rides, camping, fishing, picnicking or hiking the scenic trails.

Eastern Arizona College's Discovery Park in Safford has an observatory and astronomical museum with exhibits the

entire family can explore. A full-motion flight simulator takes guests past the more than 10,000-foot tall Mt. Graham to tour the solar system. There are even tours to the Mt. Graham observatory, where international scientists explore stars and planets from a number of telescopes.

Graham County is home to Arizona's Salsa Trail which consists of over a dozen family-owned Mexican food restaurants, a tortilla factory and a chile farm, all serving some of the best Mexican food in Arizona. An annual SalsaFest in September features salsa-making competitions, food, music, entertainment, a piñata bust for the kids, hot air balloons and more.

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Young women knit



together through Knit-a-Square service project

By Rachel Faas Trim
The Beehive

When she accepted a call to serve as Young Women's president in Ahwatukee's Mountain Park Ward, Victoria Williams did so with some trepidation.

"Beyond-stressed-out was how I felt," Sister Williams says. A basic question occupied her thoughts: *What am I going to do with all these girls?*

Victoria prayed for a way to create unity among the young sisters. An answer came while she was reading the online newsletter from her favorite yarn shop.

"As I sat feeling overwhelmed with the responsibility of spiritually leading this group," says Victoria, "the Lord guided me to the Knit-a-Square charity. The group asked for volunteers to knit 8-inch squares and mail them to volunteers in South Africa. Many other hands would stitch the blankets together for orphans, often sick with AIDS."

"I felt that it was a wonderful opportunity for the girls and leaders to leave our cares behind, step outside of ourselves, think of others, and learn a new skill while serving the Lord's children in a significant way," she says.

Adding to her excitement was the fact that knitting had played a significant role in her own life.

"After a series of family losses, knitting saved my sanity," she says.

"In the course of five years, my sister died of lung cancer, both of my grandmothers passed away, finally ending with my father's death due to pancreatic cancer. That was all my soul could take. Insomnia crept in and took up residence. It was the structure, consistency, and beauty of knitting that helped soothe me at two in the morning until six when my family woke up."

Because of her experiences, Victoria was prepared to pass on this skill to the YW. In turn, they would use their new skill to comfort others.

"All of the young women have learned to knit," Victoria says. "Several girls have declared the activity to be addicting and are also completing projects on their own."

Emma Williams, 14, admits she had to get used to the idea of knitting. "At first, I didn't like it. But now, knitting is my hobby. I think many of our young

women activities, like this one, have helped us grow closer because of all the time we spend together."

As the Mountain Park Ward YW learned to show compassion and build relationships, one stitch at a time, they helped others do the same. They recently welcomed the Ahwatukee 2nd Ward YW into the group, adding 13 girls to the knitting circle.

Chelsea Merrell, 18, says, "We started out as a small group. But when a new ward joined us, we showed them how to knit."

Chelsea says the project taught her a great deal. "I knew I was helping people and I learned a new skill," she says.

Experiences at camp made the project even more meaningful for the girls.

Victoria says, "The young women were able to visualize, in a small way, how hard life would be as an orphan in South Africa. It was cold and rainy

and the girls were freezing. A group discussion prompted them to imagine themselves without the warm coat, cozy sleeping bag, and cot and mattress that kept them off the floor. On top of that, we visualized dealing with hunger, sickness and the loss of our parents. A project like this helps all of us to realize our blessings and prompts us to do something to relieve the suffering of others."

"I love what our leaders taught us," says McKinley Hunter, 15. "When Sister Williams read about the orphans we were knitting for, it opened my eyes to see those who needed our help."

For more information about Knit-a-Square, visit www.knit-a-square.com.



Photo by Victoria Williams

Young women from the Mountain Park Ward in Ahwatukee also knit friendships as they gather to knit squares that will ultimately be made into blankets for orphans in South Africa.

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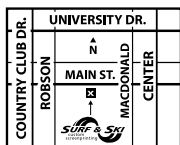
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LDS Man Teaches Native American Fathers & Mothers How to Return to Greatness

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Fatherhood is sacred.”
“Motherhood is sacred.”
This motto has been the watch cry of Albert Pooley, who has made it not only his career, but his lifework to strengthen fathers and entire families, particularly among his Native American brothers and sisters.

Al, who is a member of the Centennial Ward, is the founder of the Native American Fatherhood and Families Association (NAFFA). He states the purpose of NAFFA, saying, “We are in the business of strengthening families.”

He says that many of the social science programs that are meant to support families are slanted toward women and children only.

“Too often they leave fathers out of the equation,” he says.

As stated on the NAFFA Web site, Al explains, “At the heart of Native American culture is the oldest and most important institution—the family.”

He says, Native American people also have a firm belief in the Creator and in prayer. “Even our songs, our dances are prayers,” he says.

Brother Pooley believes the key to strengthening Native American families is to encourage fathers and mothers to return to these traditions and to the foundations of strength and leadership.

In tailored, but highly interactive, presentations, Al encourages parents, reminding them that “The purpose of life is to have happy and safe families.”

Throughout his workshops, Al includes activities and discussions that point participants to one direction—and that is positive change. He teaches, “You came from greatness, from a great heritage. Your job—if you come from greatness—you have to return to greatness.”

“It boils down to families, number 1,” Al says. “I tell them that fatherhood is leadership. This doesn’t mean that you are the boss or the ruler. It means that a

father leads.”

Brother Pooley continues, “I remind them, ‘Your wife is your fair and equal partner,’ and I tell them, ‘Your responsibility is to bring happiness and safety to your families.’”

Al has taught these workshops across the country, to groups from 39 different tribes. The message hits home, and changes hearts, motivating men and women to improve their lives and to take steps to safeguard their families.

“Cherishing all family members, making them feel welcome, wanted and special, must be a priority everyday,” he says.

Al believes that Native American who are learning to “return to greatness” can be a powerful force for the nation as a



Photo by Cecily Markland

Founder of the Native American Fatherhood and Families Association, Albert Pooley, has taken his message to 39 tribes across the country, strengthening families by teaching that “Fatherhood is sacred” and “Motherhood is sacred” and that the way to be good parents is to return to the foundations of prayer and of believing in the Creator.

whole.

“As we stand up for family, as we speak about the Creator and about prayer, we can lead out and be a powerful force for the good of our entire nation,” Al

says.

Brother Pooley knows there is still much that must be done. While word of his workshops continues to spread by word of mouth, he believes it will take a grassroots effort, with volunteers that can help raise funds and donate time to helping organize this important effort.

For additional information about NAFFA or to volunteer to help, visit the Web site at [www. http://www.nativeamericanfathers.org/](http://www.nativeamericanfathers.org/), e-mail info@aznaffa.org, or call 480-833-5007.

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Celebrations



**Kinsey Conway
& Kyle Peterson**

Married December 18, 2009
Photo by Tami Webb Photography



**Whitney Richardson
& Colin Sorensen**

Married December 30, 2009
Photo by Tami Webb Photography



**Sarah Beecher
& Tyler Beck**

Married December 29, 2009
Photo by Tami Webb Photography



**Natalie Hall
& Casey Hill**

Married January 2, 2010
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**Brittney Jones
& Jonathan Brewer**

Married January 15, 2010
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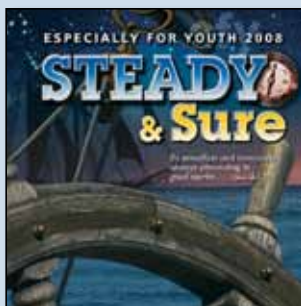
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Queen Creek Diver, Gymnast Soars to Great Heights

By Stacy Johnson
The Beehive

When 18-year-old Cody Farabee isn't upside down in the air over a tumbling mat, he is likely to be found doing aerial tricks over a diving pool.

A member of the Cortina 2nd Ward, Queen Creek Arizona North Stake, Cody is the state high school diving champion. He is also a world-recognized gymnast.

At the World Age Group Championships in Russia last November, he placed 4th in the double mini trampoline and 7th in power tumbling in the 17 to 18-year-old division.

A student at Williams Field High School with a B average in mostly honors classes, Cody enjoys coaching the next

generation of gymnasts in his spare time.

Cody began his gymnastics career at age 5. After a few years, he took some time off. "I didn't have a life," he explains.

He started again when he was 14 and, today, continues working out three hours a day, six days a week. The hard work and



Photo courtesy of Cody Farabee

Cody Farabee, of the Queen Creek Arizona North Stake, is a champion diver and a world-class level gymnast.

sacrifices have paid off, and Cody hopes that will continue. His ultimate goal is to graduate from college without having had to pay for it. Instead, he hopes his success in diving will pay his way.

"I'd like to go to school at ASU on a diving scholarship and continue to train in gymnastics," he says.

His next major hurdle is to make it to the 2010 World Championships (18 and over division) in Paris and, finally, the 2012 Olympics, where he would compete with the athletes he calls "the best of the best." When asked how it feels to be among the world's best gymnasts, Cody responds, "It is hard to grasp the picture, I just do what I do and try not to worry about my outward appearance too much. There are so many really great athletes out there who aren't really great people; I don't want to be like that."

Cody certainly doesn't seem "like that." Instead, his good example is often noticed, such as when a friend at the gym was impressed enough that she wanted to know about the church. She took the missionary lessons and was baptized about a year ago.

"To be at the level I am at, a national or world-ranked anything, no matter what sport you are in, honestly, you have to be pretty strong spiritually and mentally. There were times when I was very discouraged and down. Whether it was injuries or exhaustion, you can always find the extra strength by praying and reading your scriptures."

Cody says family offers another source of strength. "Look to your parents, they are a huge support... My parents make sure I stay motivated. They more or less push me when I can't push myself any further."

Whether he is diving, doing gymnastics or working on his education, expect Cody Farabee to soar to great heights. Literally.

"He's really an amazing guy," says his mother, Michele. "He has to balance so much—he has such a full load. Maybe from competing, he has to be mature for his age, and just to accomplish everything he's done [is amazing]."

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Photo courtesy of Jeffrey D. Allred, Deseret News

Latter-day Saint Helping Hands give service in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Despite Challenges, Church Aid Reaching Needy; More Is on the Way

The devastating earthquake in Haiti has shattered millions of lives, but the relief efforts and outpouring of support by organizations and individuals worldwide offer hope. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been working diligently since the disaster to provide aid to the people of Haiti through its humanitarian aid program. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of relief supplies have arrived already, and more are being shipped.

“Our hearts ache for the people of Haiti and our prayers are with them as we witness the unimaginable suffering they are experiencing,” said Bishop H. David Burton, presiding bishop of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who oversees the Church’s humanitarian program. “We are grateful for the many generous donations that enable the Church to provide extensive relief in Haiti, as well as other parts of the world.”

Several air shipments of aid provided by the Church have arrived and are being used in Haiti. They include food, medical supplies, tents, water filtration bottles, blankets, newborn kits, wheelchairs, first aid kits and other items. The first three flights included a total of nearly 225,000 pounds of relief supplies. The Church provided the transportation for one of those flights, and CARE and United Airlines provided transport for the other two.

Air shipments continue, with transportation support from United Airlines as well as Islamic Relief USA.

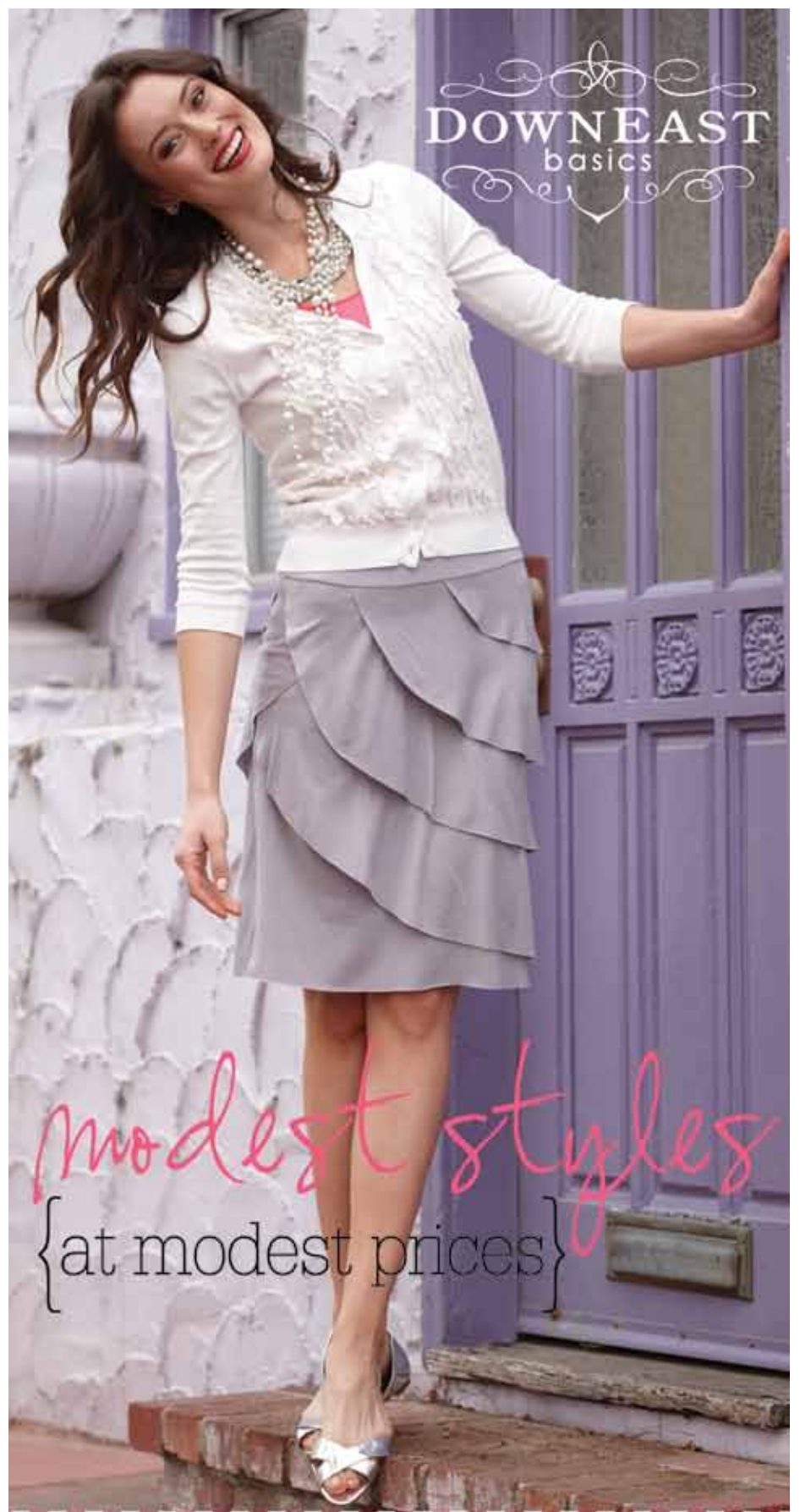
Additionally, several truckloads of

relief supplies have arrived in Haiti with supplies the Church procured in the Dominican Republic.

A team of five medical personnel coordinated by the Church arrived on Friday, 15 January, from the Dominican Republic to assist the injured. Another team of 16 medical professionals from the United States arrived on 18 January and are currently providing care for those who need it. “It means so much to these people to know that somebody knows that they are here,” said Brandon Hall, a doctor from Mapleton, Utah.

All of the Church’s meetinghouses in Haiti have been left largely undamaged. Local Church leaders report that nine chapels in Haiti have been used to shelter as many as 5,000 people in local communities where the chapels are located. Several truckloads of food and other relief supplies have been shipped to the chapels, and doctors sent by the Church have provided treatment to injured individuals who are taking shelter there.

Among the millions of people affected by the earthquake in Haiti are thousands of Latter-day Saints. As reported recently on Newsroom.lds.org, all Latter-day Saint missionaries in Haiti are accounted for and safe. They are now participating in the relief efforts and have been helping unload relief supplies at the Church’s meetinghouses. At this point, 20 members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have died as a result of the quake, and hundreds more have injuries.



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One Arizona Cowboy Finds "Home"

By Linda Turley-Hansen
The Beehive

Snuggled up against the San Tan Mountains in south Queen Creek is the workshop of a leather craftsman who clings stubbornly to his livelihood.

Jim Teague, also a national roping champion and skilled horse trainer, masterfully turns leather into every kind of product: Saddlebags, biker leathers, holsters, chaps, purses and whatever else a person wants. He also repairs anything made of leather, but wonders how long his industry will last as the economy dampens every sort of custom work. In fact, few leather artisans remain.

On the walls of his workshop are pictures of his success in the rodeo arena. And, there, in the midst of his memora-

bilias, tools and leather scraps, lay a stack of Book of Mormon CDs, revealing even more about this rugged cowboy, who's on a personal journey for eternal answers.

This is a man who grew up on a ranch in Lovington, New Mexico, and loved the cowboy life. Ranch work was hard, but rewarding, as the culture historically provided community support. The rest of his life, he would yearn for those times. Thus, in recent years, as he crossed over his half-century mark, Jim found that he began asking the hard questions. "Why was he here, what was life about?" He'd been raised a Baptist, prayed often, even taught a few sermons on the rodeo road, but never found what he was looking for.

Eventually, he landed in Phoenix's East Valley, where he developed his leather crafting talents. It was some 15 years ago that he and his instructor produced a saddle as his first major project; one of many Jim would eventually create. That saddle went to Sterling Leavitt, of Mesa, currently the First Counselor in the Apache Junction Stake.

Two years ago, President Leavitt took the saddle into Jim's shop, Broken Spur Cowboy Co., for cleaning. He did not know he was returning it to its original creator. And, there, the two men discovered far more than their common links to the saddle. They now claim an eternal friendship.

Jim eventually asked for the missionaries. On January 12, President Leavitt baptized his friend in the Queen Creek Stake Center, and Jim is now a member of the Montelena Ward.

"I knew I needed something more in my life," Jim said. By the third missionary lesson, Jim had read the Book of Mormon. "It's not all that different than the Bible," he said. And, he found comfort in the ward services. "They gave me a good enough feeling that on Monday I couldn't wait for the next Sunday. I've never participated in a church where it made me think about it all week."

He likes the peaceful nature of the services. "There's no one up front trying to scare or beat it into you." And, there's something else, which he has missed since his youth: A supportive, community culture; the neighborhood family. "I was raised where if a neighbor needed help, we were all there," he said.

One might say, a cowboy artist has finally found home.

As for his livelihood: Jim points to a recent Gospel Doctrine lesson which spoke to him, "These trials purify us, rather than defeat us." He's aware that many folks in Arizona relate, and concur, with a humble, "amen."

To learn more about Jim and his leatherwork, email: brokenspurcowboy-co@yahoo.com.

Jim Teague, a national roping champion and skilled horse trainer, turns leather into beautiful products in his Broken Spur Cowboy Company leather workshop in Queen Creek.

Photo by David Hansen

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Mesa Author and Attorney Writes Two Books on the Temple

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Nearly 20 years ago, Mark A. Shields began an intense study of the temple, spending entire days in the library at Brigham Young University where he was an undergraduate, devouring information from every book he could find about the temple. Often he would finish a book in a day and, as he did, his pages of notes and references grew.

Now, Mark is an attorney in Mesa and is the bishop of the Santa Rita 2nd Ward in the Mesa Desert Ridge Stake. And, after that nearly two decades of studying the writings of temple scholars, he has published two books of his own about the temple in under a year.

The first, titled *Your Endowment*, published by Cedar Fort, Inc., was released in August 2009. His most recent, called *Gospel Symbols* and also from Cedar Fort, will hit the shelves this month.

Bishop Shields says, "I wouldn't describe myself as a scholar, I just think a lot," and one thing he found himself thinking about was the relationship many members have to the temple.

"I've seen so many people through the years who go through the temple one time or maybe two times and then don't go back," he says. "It's just that it feels foreign to them. The symbolism is foreign. We just don't talk about symbolism in general in the Church. It's so different, but, as people come to understand it, the temple can become a huge blessing in their lives."

He continues, "I've taken it as a personal challenge to try to overcome that lack of understanding."

Bishop Shields says he has taught the temple prep class multiple times through the years.

"*Your Endowment* actually follows the same basic outline as the temple prep manual," he says, "but I am able to go into a lot more detail, more depth."

Even with that basic outline and with the notes and the knowledge he had accumulated over the years, there seems to be something beyond that in the book. He says he feels there was definitely some divine direction and assistance.

"I look back at it, reread it, and just kind of shake me head and think, 'Did I really write this?'" he says.

Also, the fact that he finished in less than two months is added evidence that "there was a lot of help going on there," he says.

He believes the books will give people a new understanding of the temple.

"And, if people understand more, they are likely to go there more often and then they will learn more and will learn the

lessons the Lord wants us to learn from the temple."

Bishop Shields' books will help readers understand both the symbolism and the vocabulary of the temple.

"There's a whole section on vocabulary that looks at the words—like 'Adam,' 'Michael,' 'endowment' and 'token'—words we don't bother to define, but that can put the temple experience in a whole new light for us."

Your Endowment and *Gospel Symbolism* are available at Seagull Books and independent LDS bookstores. Approxi-

mately 60 percent of the content of *Your Endowment* can also be found online, by going to book.google.com and searching for "Your Endowment" or "Mark A. Shields." This site also shows the cover of the book, the table of contents and a list of stores where the books can be purchased.

After nearly 20 years of research, two recently released books by Mesa attorney, Mark A. Shields, share the in-depth details and understanding he gleaned from his study of the temple and gospel symbols.

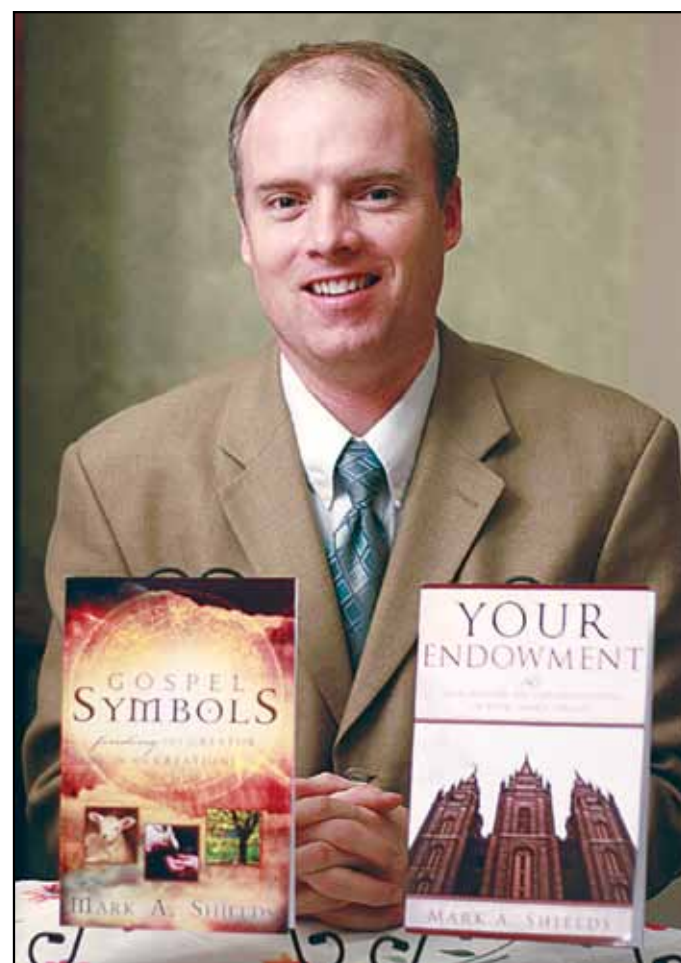


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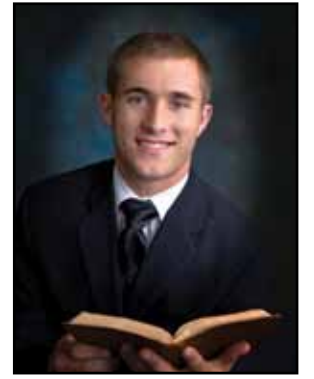
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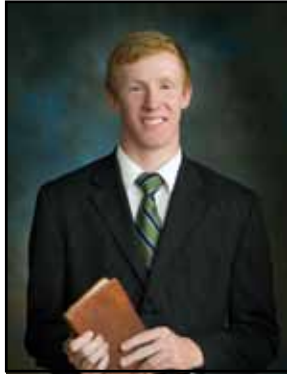
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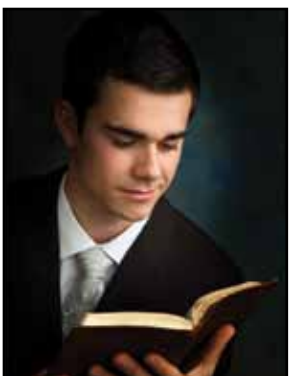
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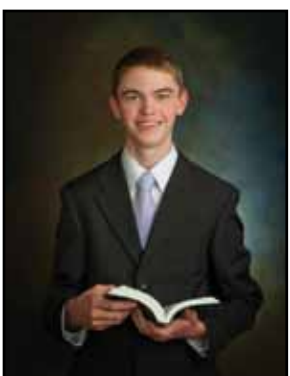
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Texas, Houston



Ethan Jones
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Kleinman Park Ward
Mexico, Mexico City North



Casey Michel
Fairview Ward
Argentina, Bahia Blanca



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Argentina, Bahia Blanca



Jared Renfro
Southern Estates Ward
Indiana, Indianapolis



Gregory Romney
Grandview I Ward
Costa Rica



Gloria Schnebly
Udall Ward
Peru, Lima East



Weston Stewart
Brimhall Ward
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LDS Country Artist Balances Family & Music

By Katie Hawkes
The Beehive

Country singer Cindy Standage is unique in her industry as a stay-at-home mom who holds fast to her LDS standards as she performs with top artists across the country.

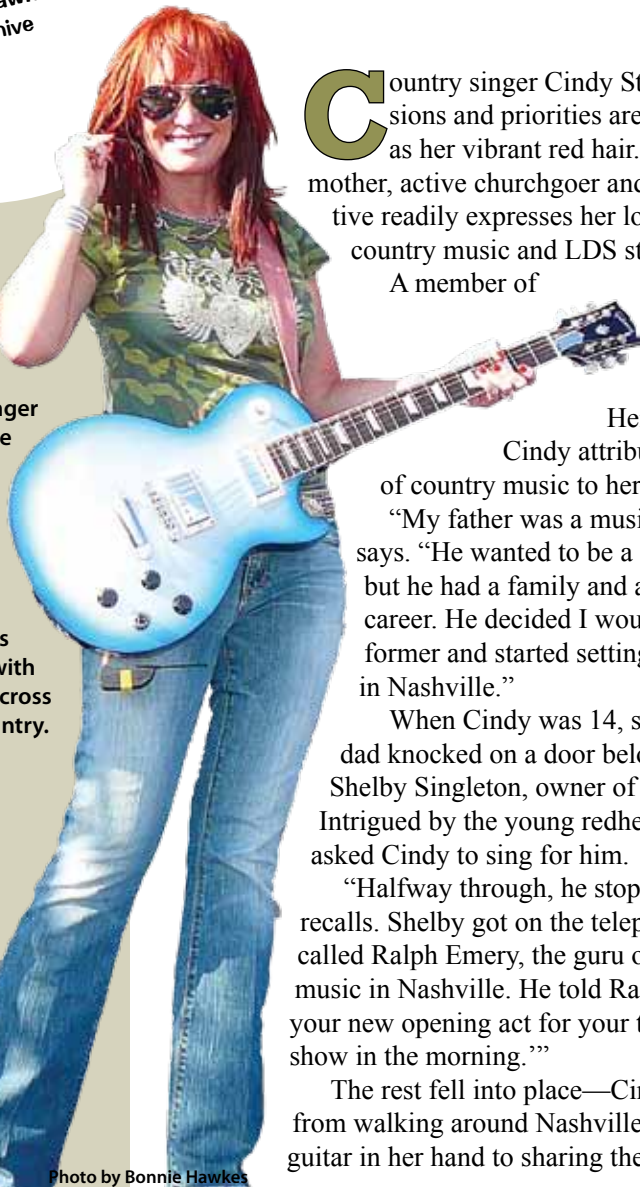


Photo by Bonnie Hawkes

Country singer Cindy Standage's passions and priorities are as noticeable as her vibrant red hair. This wife, mother, active churchgoer and Georgia native readily expresses her love of family, country music and LDS standards.

A member of

the Estate Groves Ward, Citrus Heights Stake,

Cindy attributes her love of country music to her father.

"My father was a musician," she says. "He wanted to be a songwriter, but he had a family and a successful career. He decided I would be a performer and started setting up meetings in Nashville."

When Cindy was 14, she and her dad knocked on a door belonging to Shelby Singleton, owner of Sun Records. Intrigued by the young redhead, Shelby asked Cindy to sing for him.

"Halfway through, he stopped me," she recalls. Shelby got on the telephone and called Ralph Emery, the guru of country music in Nashville. He told Ralph, "I've got your new opening act for your television show in the morning."

The rest fell into place—Cindy went from walking around Nashville with her guitar in her hand to sharing the stage with

country greats such as George Jones, Randy Travis and Neal McCoy.

"The bigger the artist, the nicer they are," Cindy says. "Loretta Lynn was probably my favorite person to perform with. She was very sweet to me, very motherly, very flattering. She told the crowd she was proud to be on the stage with me, and that just blew me away."

Cindy never leaves her standards backstage, whether it's her clean lyrics—"If I won't say it, I won't sing it," she says—or turning down Sunday gigs.

"I have turned down jobs on Sunday in the past. Big jobs," she says. "But I have found that other jobs would come my way shortly thereafter."

Cindy sees balancing her family and her music as an opportunity rather than an obstacle. Cindy chose to stay at home when her children were young, then made sure they were highly involved when she began traveling and pursuing her musical career again.

Cindy says her ever-supportive father, her children and her husband, Ed, are her biggest fans. "Ed is beside himself over it all," she says. "He can't get enough of it."

Cindy's children are involved in almost every aspect of her musical career, from selling merchandise at shows to singing back-up vocals on her albums. Her youngest daughter, Shelby, often

travels with her; and her oldest, Bonnie Hawkes, designed Cindy's CD covers.

Additionally, Cindy praises her Mesa neighbors.

"I live in an area where all my neighbors support me," she says. "I've never performed without looking into the crowd and seeing the faces of my neighbors. Whether it's Wisconsin or Texas, there they are."

In Cindy's industry, missionary opportunities are plentiful and she is careful to be an example when she's on the road. "It keeps me and my family on our toes," she says. "I don't always bring (the Church) up, but people always know."

With a heart as big as her personality, Cindy dedicates 20 percent of her album profits to Fisher House, which provides a home-away-from-home for families of patients in military hospitals.

"I fell in love with this charity and its people," she says. "The people that run the homes are the kindest, nicest people I've ever met."

Cindy recorded her first CD, *Same Red Hair*, in 2007, and will release her second, *Redneck with Too Much Money*, this year. She currently is working on a music video for the album's title track.

"I'm fortunate that I get to do what I love," Cindy says. "I hope I can do just what I'm doing for a long time."



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Trio Finds *Deep Peace* in Music

By Evelyn Hendrix
The Beehive

Richard Talbot, Joe Tenney and Jon Buehner, all from Arizona, comprise the musical group, Three2U, which recently released its first CD, titled "Deep Peace."

Richard Talbot has the ultimate "man cave" in his basement, with dark paneling, dim lighting and an awesome sound system. He and his best friends hang out there, but these guys aren't teenagers watching movies or playing Guitar Hero. Although the teasing and laughter might fool you, they are definitely grownups. And, instead of just listening to other people's music, they are busy making their own.

Brother Talbot and his friends, Joe Tenney and Jon Buehner, are seasoned performers comprising the musical group, Three2U. They have performed together for 20 years and recently released their second album, titled "Deep Peace." It delivers a distinct message the trio feels strongly about.

"Each of us has had our share of trials to go through," explains Brother Talbot. "But there's still hope in the darkness that surrounds us."

Richard knows what he's talking about. While planning the album, he contracted aggressive lymphoma and endured difficult chemotherapy treatments. When he lost his hair, the other two men shaved their heads in a show of support. And, they kept on singing.

"We didn't know what would happen," recalls Brother Tenney, "but Richard's life was spared. It's a gift that was given to us."

As Brother Talbot grew stronger, the men realized that their music was also a gift and they could touch lives with it. The album is a culmination of 13 years of work and inspiration. "It's about what has shaped us and helped us become what we are," Brother Tenney says. "Hopefully, listeners will feel that. Maybe they will feel some connection."

The music chronicles the men's lives, as they sing about milestones each has reached. "Without End," one of three original songs, is about a father's love for a daughter who is about to marry. "Help Them the Angels Cry," is an emotional ballad about service and helping the poor.

"The songs on this album encompass all that we've had in our lives," says Brother Buehner, "whether it's sending sons on missions or losing loved ones." Although the three are not related, their strong, brotherly bond comes across in their tight harmony and perfect unison.

Three2U sings for a variety of events, including firesides, Gilbert Constitution Week, Christmas concerts, and, one of

their favorites, the Mesa Easter Pageant devotionals. Brother Tenney has narrated the pageant for the past 11 years, and Brother Buehner performs in it as well.

The men are known throughout the LDS music world for their talent and willingness to help others.

Brother Talbot owns and operates a production studio, where he has extensive experience as an arranger, mixer, sound engineer and produce. He's worked with a host of talented musicians such as Rob Gardner, Brooke White, Debbie West Coon, Randy Kartchner and Sam Cardon. Several of these artists lent their talents to Three2U's album.

The group recently performed with Debbie Coon, Michele Baer and Freddie Ashby at a concert in Gilbert. Three2U's album and tickets to upcoming events can be purchased online at Amazon.com or at www.Three2U.com.



Photo by Matt Wheeler, Still Life Studios

The men all live in Gilbert, where their biggest supporters include their wives and families; they have 14 children between them.

"Our kids have grown up together," Brother Tenney says. He recalls everyone piling into cars recently and driving to Utah to put the final touches on the album.

As the three men banter good-naturedly, it's easy to imagine them as teenage boys hanging out after school. They work and play together with equal enthusiasm.

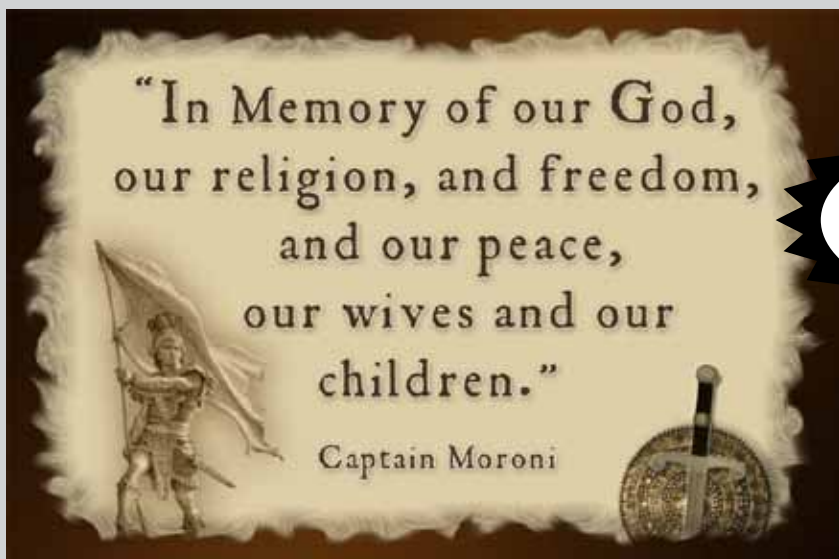
"The sum of us is greater than the individual parts," Brother Tenney says. "We are friends and brothers; we really are more like a family."

Together they have found "Deep Peace."



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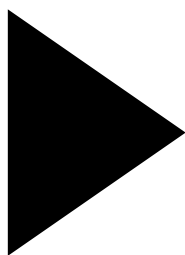
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Residents Come First at COURTYARD TOWERS SENIOR LIVING CENTER

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Above all, residents come first at Courtyard Towers Senior Living. That fact is evident in the personalized care, skilled and caring staff and the wide range of activities and services that aptly address residents' physical, social, and even emotional and spiritual needs.

Courtyard Towers Community Relations Director, Paige Fairbanks, describes the full-service community, saying, "We offer senior assisted living and also provide our residents with acute assisted living care and memory support for those who suffer from dementia and Alzheimer's disease."

Courtyard Towers has a nursing staff that assists with activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, grooming, taking medication, incontinence care, walking, and eating. They have professional housekeeping services that clean linens and towels on a weekly or daily basis, depending on the resident's preference.

This list of services hardly explains what Courtyard Towers truly offers to its residents.

One of those residents, Shirley Hadley, says it's these "extras" that helped her choose Courtyard Towers in the first place. Then, after living there three years, she moved to Utah for a year, but happily returned to Courtyard Towers six years ago. "I love everything about it," Shirley says, "This is my home."

While there are movies, trips to WalMart, crafts, games and other activities going on all the time, Shirley says her favorite pastime is reading. She selects books from the two libraries at Courtyard Towers, often completing a book in a day.

She says the food is excellent and she likes the restaurant-style dining.

Located in downtown Mesa, Courtyard Towers also features a comfortable living room, studies and lounge.

Free laundry services, concierge

and personal assistant services and private mailboxes are among the many amenities offered.

There is 24-hour staffing and chauffeured transportation as well as a computer lounge, beauty salon and garden patio with waterfalls and ponds.



Photo by Cecily Markland

Shirley Hadley, 91, shown here in her apartment at Courtyard Towers, says she loves everything about the senior living center and adds, "Residents come first at Courtyard Towers."

Continued on pg. 31



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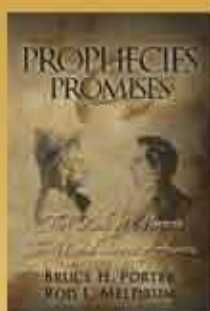
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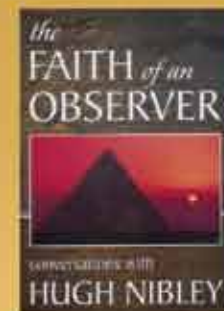


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Latter-day Saint Youth Given New Tools

Teenage members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have some helpful new resources available to them as they strive to live the standards of their faith.

The Church has created youth.lds.org, a new Web site that uses multimedia and social networking to provide young Latter-day Saints with answers to their questions about faith and morality in today's world.

The Web site includes detailed information from *For the Strength of Youth*, a pamphlet for teenage Latter-day Saints outlining standards rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Another section of the site offers regularly-updated messages from Church leaders about the issues youth face. Visitors will also find uplifting videos and as stories about other youth from all over the world. Youth are encouraged to share the site with friends and family members.

A core part of youth.lds.org is the "A Brand New Year" presentation. First launched in 2009, a "A Brand New Year" is produced and distributed to Church leaders worldwide on DVD. The presentation combines original music with instruction and personal vignettes to explore the impact of Church teachings in the everyday lives of teenagers.

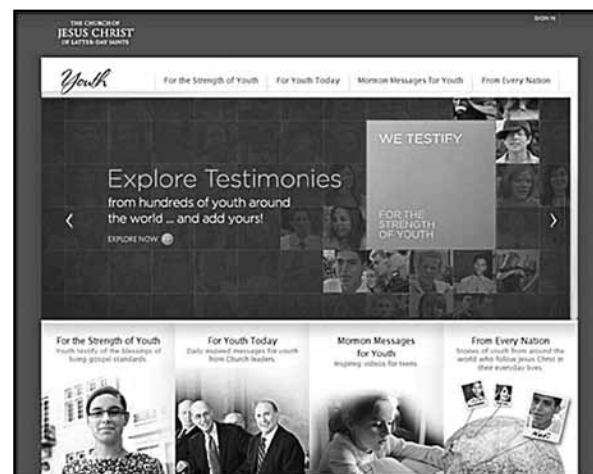
"Each of you has your own personal challenges and each of you is on the pioneer trail toward eternal life," Elder M. Russell Ballard, a senior leader of the Church, says in the DVD presentation. "You must always remember you are not alone. All over the world the youth of the Church are walking the gospel path with you."

The DVD shares experiences from more than 1,200 youth in 25 different countries and speaking 17 different languages. Such worldwide distribution gives a broad international feel to the DVD.

"We have peers encouraging peers,"

says David L. Beck, president of the Church's organization for young men. "We feel like there is strength in numbers, but many LDS teens are teaching us that you can be strong if you are one, and your heart is where it should be. And as those youth in isolated areas of the world watch the DVD, they will understand that they are not really alone, that there are other LDS teens in the world like them."

This new media outreach has potential to reach many young people from all over the world. Nearly 33,000 DVDs of "A Brand New Year: 2010 Youth Celebration" were produced to be distributed to leaders throughout the world. The productions were translated into 11 languages.



www.youth.lds.org, a new website for LDS youth.

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Residents First at Courtyard Towers Continued from pg. 29

Shirley says she enjoys meeting with other Latter-day Saint residents for Sacrament meeting, which is held a room on the ground floor of Courtyard Towers. Family home evenings are also provided in the Courtyard Towers game room on Monday evenings. Home teachers and visiting teachers regularly visit the residents.

"I'm very pleased with this place. I always have been," says Shirley.

She adds, "The staff members are excellent. They definitely put the residents first. They've been very good to me."

Shirley says she would recommend Courtyard Towers to anyone looking for a senior living center. "I'd assure them, by all means, to come here."

For more information about Courtyard Towers, including a list of amenities, a description of a typical day at the center and pictures of the individual suites, visit <http://courtyardtowersarizona.com>. Personal tours and lunch at Courtyard Towers may be scheduled by calling 480-649-3000. Courtyard Towers is located at 22 North Robson in Mesa.

Mr. Mac Comes to Arizona to Outfit Missionaries & Businessmen

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The stores dot the Wasatch front, with nine locations in Utah; but their products are worn all over the world, as Mr. Mac men's clothing stores outfit thousands of missionaries each year.

In the 40 years since Mr. Mac first opened its doors, the company has become known for its commitment to service and quality.

Plus, says Adam Winn, manager of the Mr. Mac store in American Fork, Utah, they are "We are known to cater especially to Mormon missionaries. Mr. Mac is world renowned for missionary clothing."

He adds that other men's clothing stores, "Don't understand the clothing missionaries need and what items they need to have."

"We literally have missionary clothes that are made for missionaries," he says, adding that these specially designed clothes include two-pant suits and wrinkle-free white shirts. Most of all, he says, the clothes are made to last and parents who are outfitting their missionaries appreciate the low prices and package deals offered by Mr. Mac.

Adam says that while the company is world renowned for missionary clothes, this part of their business makes up only 25 percent of their total sales. "We have suits for business professionals, CEOs, for those who just need a suit for church," Adam says. "Suit prices range from \$125 to \$900."

Perhaps what sets Mr. Mac apart from the competition more than any other thing is that "we offer free lifetime alterations on all clothing purchased from us," Adam says.

Plus, they are now providing an added service for potential customers in Arizona. The store's Web site, at www.mrmac.com, offers a way for people all over the world to have access to Mr. Mac's clothing line.

Now, Mr. Mac has made it even easier for Arizona customers, with trunk shows that actually bring the full line of Mr. Mac inventory to a temporary showroom here.

"At the trunk shows, all of our clothing items are on hand, our full selection of suits, shoes, trench coats, everything," explains Adam, who oversees the trunk shows and brings with him one of his more experienced sales associates.

At the trunk shows, customers are able to select the appropriate size and be measured for alterations. After the company representatives return to Utah, the suits are altered and, along with shirts, shoes and other purchased items, are shipped back to Arizona.

"It works really well," Adam says. "Customers are really pleased with the results."

The next Arizona trunk show will be Friday and Saturday, March 12 and 13 at the Hilton Hotel, off I-60 and Alma School in Mesa. Mr. Mac will set up in a conference room in the hotel, where customers can browse between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. both days.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Mac

With nine stores in Utah, Mr. Mac men's clothing stores is known for its two-pant suits and wrinkle-resistant shirts and other missionary-friendly clothes and Mr. Mac will soon be bringing its full line to Arizona for a trunk show.

To see Mr. Mac's inventory online, visit www.mrmac.com

Donations Continue as Plans are Made for London's Run & Ride 2011

On January 30, London's Run 2010—a 5K and a two-mile fun run—and, immediately following that, a trail ride called London's Ride 2010, was held to remember London Solomon and to raise money for cancer treatment.

Donations to that cause continue to come in and plans are being made already for next year's run and ride.

London Solomon was diagnosed with an aggressive

type of leukemia (AML) May 2005 when she was six years old.

In December 2005, while in her fifth round of chemo, she developed an infection and passed away December 21. To read journal entries made during her treatment, see www.caringbridge.org/visit/londonsolomon.

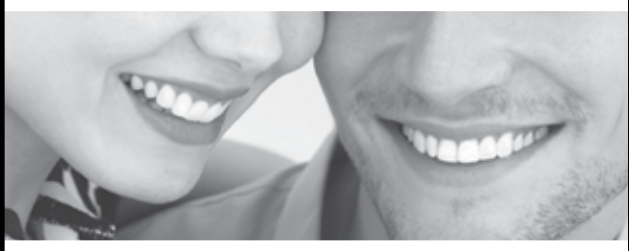
According to the London's Run Web site (www.londonsrun.org), "The butterfly was chosen as the logo

for London's Run and London's Ride because it represents the changes one makes as they go through the cancer experience. ... The butterfly reminds the rest of us that we can watch on with wonder and learn from the privilege we have in rubbing shoulders with the special people in our lives who are touched by cancer."

To learn about how to sponsor next year's event, make a donation, or if you have any other questions about London's Run, e-mail info@londonsrun.org



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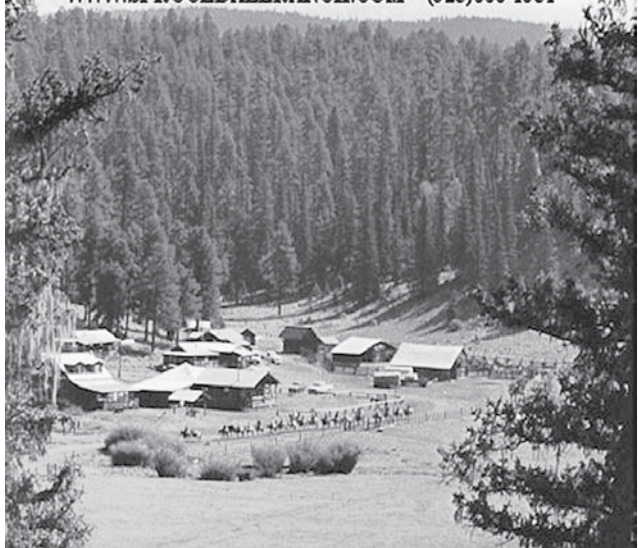
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From the Editor's Desktop

By Cecily Markland

The Meaning of Moving

I heard people denounce it several times in the weeks before I did it myself.

"I hate moving," they'd say.

"Now, really, what could be so bad?" I wondered.

But, as I said, that was before I did it myself. Before the sorting, tossing, carting off to DI, and giving away. Before the finding boxes, taping boxes, filling boxes, lifting boxes, stacking boxes and storing some in one place some in another. That was long before cleaning old house, cleaning new, then doing all those things again, but in reverse this time, to unpack and move back in on the other end.

Add to that a trip to the dump (or two), another trip to DI (or two), a trip to the hazardous waste disposal place and, sure, I can say it now.

"I hate moving."

It's really not as easy as one might think. It's taxing to both body and brain. Indeed, a move can make every muscle miserable. It can way overstrain the brain. I mean, how do you decide whether your Jell-o mold needs to have place in your new place, needs to be relegated to the storage unit, passed on to a willing taker or donated to charity? And, just how are you supposed to know how many books to put in a box before it becomes so heavy that even Hercules himself could never lift it?

Then, if you're anything like me, just when you're settled, just when you think you'll never move again, once you've got your "I hate moving" attitude firmly in place, well, that's when your sister sells her house and moves the very same weekend her daughter is getting married—and you get to help.

Then, just when you're back home, just when you think you'll never move again, that's when you realize that the whole world is in a state of flux. That's when you sneer and say, "You know, life just has too many moving parts."

And then, that's when you remember, it's true, like it or not, the very world we live in is in constant motion.

And then, you flip open your scriptures to Mosiah 2:21 and experience an instant attitude adjustment as you are reminded that movement, that the breath itself that allows you to move, is a gift.

You read, "I say unto you that if ye should serve him who has created you from the beginning, and is preserving you from day to day, by lending you breath, that ye may live and move and do according to your own will, and even supporting you from one moment to another—I say, if ye should serve him

with all your whole souls yet ye would be unprofitable servants."

And, that's when you remember, in awe, your Father's ability to move—even all heaven and earth, should He chose.

"Yea, by the power of his voice, do the foundations rock, even to the very center. Yea, and if he say unto the earth—Move—it is moved." (Helaman 12:12-13)

And, that's when you are truly moved—nearly to tears—with love and awe and gratitude.

East Valley Mormon Choral Organization Announces Easter Concert March 5

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The East Valley Mormon Choral Organization (EVMCO) held its inaugural concert in December 2009.

According to Dal Albretsen, EVMCO president, "We received very enthusiastic praise, and feedback that speaks for itself, like 'I had no idea!' 'I'll never miss another concert,' and, 'This really isn't just another Mormon choir.'"

EVMCO includes more than 330 members, including an adult choir, a full symphony orchestra, and professional children's and youth choruses.

"It is no exaggeration when I tell you

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EVMCO's first concert of 2010, titled "That Easter Morn," will be held at 7:30 p.m. on March 5 at the Mesa Arts Center.

Dal says, "The music is absolutely beautiful."

Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$39 at the Mesa Arts Center box office at One East Main Street in Mesa or by calling 480-644-6500 or going to www.mesaartscenter.com. There are additional fees if tickets are ordered online or by phone.



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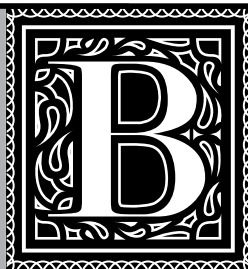
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Enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship and—baseball!—at LDS Friends and Family Night at Chase Field.

The D-Backs will take on the Padres that night, Friday, August 6, with game time at 6:40 p.m. The evening will feature several activities tailored to families and meant especially to welcome the LDS community to the ball field.

Specially priced tickets are available in various price ranges, depending on where you choose to sit. Tickets are available in the upper level infield reserve at \$10 (regular \$15), lower level bleachers/bullpen at \$15, Insight Diamond level club bullpen at \$20 (regular \$25) or lower level baseline box at \$30 (regular \$34). Tickets are on sale now. To purchase tickets, visit www.dbacks.com/ldsnight and, when asked for the sign-in ID, use: LDS.

Deaf Branch in need of ASL Interpreters

The Phoenix 43rd Deaf Branch is in need of American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters who can help, either on a regular or as needed basis.

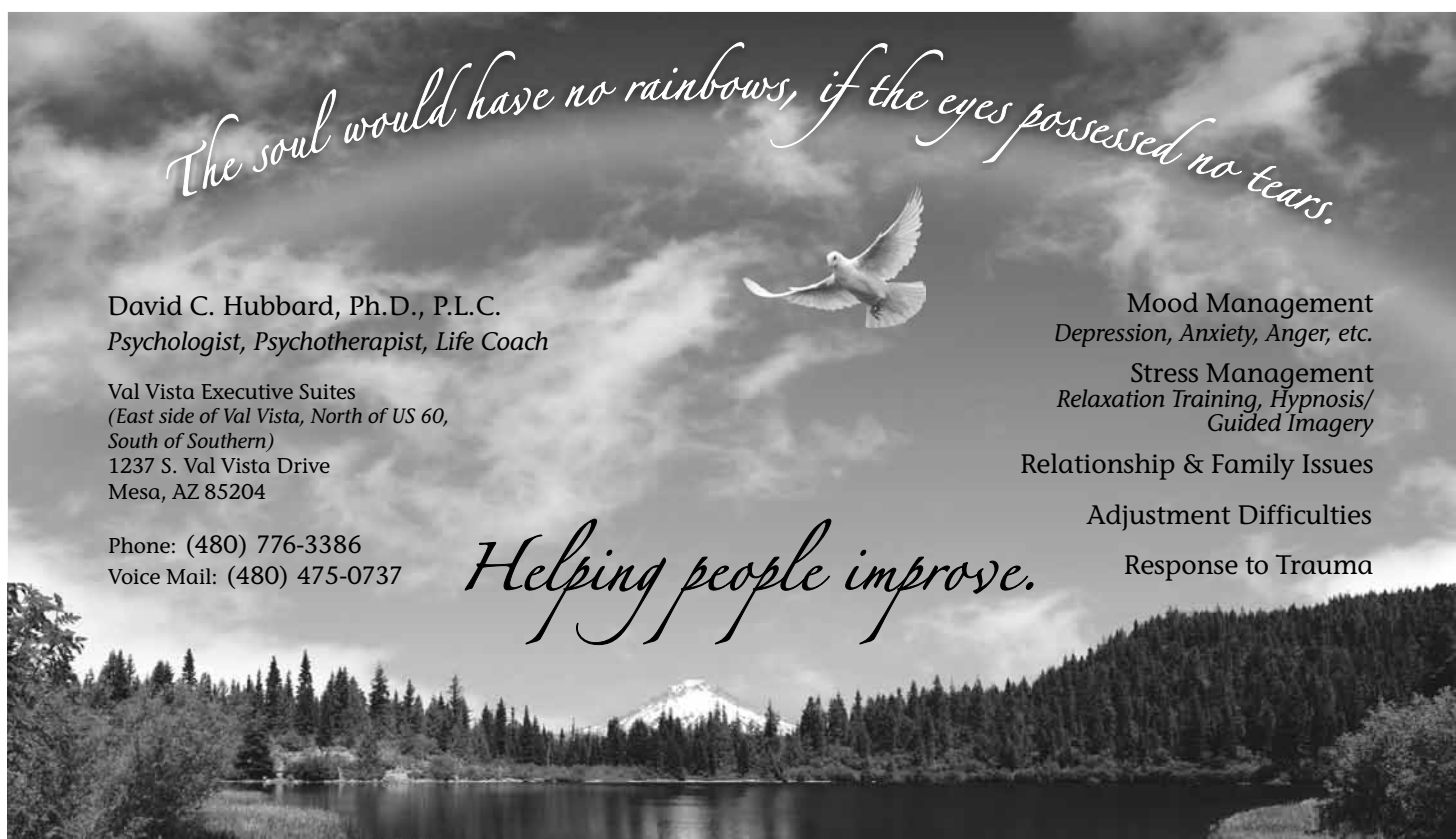
"We're always looking for interpreters," says Tommy Thompson, a high councilor in the Phoenix East Stake with responsibility for the Phoenix 43rd Deaf Branch.

He says they are interested in creating a pool of individuals who could help even a couple of times a year for ward conferences, stake conferences, bishopric trainings or similar meetings.

The Phoenix 43rd Deaf Branch serves the entire Valley and meets at the Phoenix East Stake Center at 1835 E. Missouri (51st and Highland). Sunday meetings begin at 10:20 a.m. with Relief Society and Priesthood first, followed by Sunday School and the Sacrament Meeting last. All meetings are presented in ASL and translated into English.

To volunteer to help as an interpreter or for more information about the Deaf Branch, contact Tommy Thompson by calling 602-275-5286 or by e-mail at jathompson9@msn.com

The soul would have no rainbows, if the eyes possessed no tears.



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As Seen on     

President Monson Announces New Temple in Payson, Utah

A new temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is to be built in Payson, Utah, it was announced recently by Church President Thomas S. Monson.

The new temple will help meet the needs of a growing Church membership in the area and will ease the heavy use of the Provo temple, which is one of the busiest in the Church. The Payson temple will bring to 15 the number of operating and announced temples in Utah.

The property for the Payson temple is located on gently sloping ground at approximately 930 West and 1550 South on the southwest side of Payson, a mile from the 800 South I-15 interchange. The property offers scenic views of the area as well as easy access to the freeway.

The new temple will serve approximately 22 stakes from Spanish Fork to Nephi comprising approximately 78,000 Church members. Temple-going members have been driving to Provo or Manti for temple services.

Artists' renderings, the size of the temple, groundbreaking dates and other information will be released as they become available.

"Temples answer those soul-searching questions of the purpose of life, of why we are here and where we are going. They are sanctuaries from the storms of life and bless the lives of members of the Church who worship within their sacred walls," said President Monson.

The practice of temple building is rooted in both the Old and New Testaments, and from its historical beginnings to the present day the Church has constructed temples.

The first temple was built by the Church in Kirtland, Ohio. The first Utah temple was completed in St. George in 1877, followed by Logan in 1884, Manti in 1888, and Salt Lake City in 1893.

The Payson temple will bring the total number of temples worldwide already in operation or in the planning and construction phases to 152.

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Internet Sources to Help Build Stronger Marriages

Knowing that "marriage between a man and a woman is ordained of God" ("The Family: A Proclamation to the World") it would behoove husbands and wives to put forth every

effort on a daily basis to preserve and strengthen that union.

"Because marriage is such an important relationship in life, it needs and deserves time," states *True to the Faith*,

a book published by the Church in 2004. "Do not give higher priority to less-important commitments. Take time to talk together and to listen to one another. Be thoughtful and respectful. Express tender feelings and affection often."

In our daily, busy lives it is often easy to let the "less-important commitments" take precedence. During the year, perhaps we can re-evaluate our relationships and commit to doing that which will build stronger marriages. There are many good articles and online resources to help you think about where your relationship

is and advice and sound principles on how to make it better.

At the Church's Web site, Lds.org, click on gospel library, then gospel topics, and then find the topic of marriage. Here you can find a link to The Family: A Proclamation to the World, which is worth reading again. There is additional information and online materials, scripture references, and excellent church magazine articles, including "Eternal Marriage" by Elder F. Burton Howard (2003); "Covenant Marriage" by Elder

Continued on pg. 37



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Cyber Surfing with Jill B. Adair Continued from pg. 36

Bruce C. Hafen (1996) and “The Importance of Celestial Marriage” by Spencer W. Kimball (1980).

Also at this Web site, by choosing support materials under gospel library and then finding optional courses, you’ll find the “Marriage and Family Relations” instructor’s manual and participant’s study guide for lessons including Developing Unity in Marriage, Nurturing Love and Friendship in Marriage, Responding to Challenges in Marriage and The Healing Power of Forgiveness.

About.Com has good, practical information for Latter-day Saints. Find “12 ways to have a happy, healthy marriage,” “What to do when your spouse doesn’t

want change” and “How to have a happy marriage when you’re busy parenting.” Another link takes you to “Avoid these common harmful behaviors; save your marriage” with extremely important topics. For many more links and helpful articles, just click the links at the bottom of each page.

Deseret News’ publication Mormon Times has helpful articles as well. I always enjoy Orson Scott Card’s honest reflections and he often writes on the marriage relationship in a positive way. Search his columns online at mormon-times.com and be sure to read “Marriage needs lots of humor” and “Making ourselves a perfect fit in marriage.”

Also on MormonTimes.com, Laura M. Brotherson writes a regular column on marriage. Important reads include: “Affair-proofing your marriage,” “Be

your spouse’s chocolate substitute,” and “Characteristics of a healthy intimate relationship in marriage.”

Another good article is by Stan Cronin at LDS Living magazine. Find “How to date your wife: at www.ldslivingmagazine.com/articles/show/31.

The magazine Christianity Today has a Web site at www.marriagepartnership.com that offers a free newsletter on marriage, advice and insight, communication, couple counsel, humor and fun, romance and more—all from a Christian perspective.

Editor’s Note: This column is designed to provide Beehive readers with timesaving direction and ideas for safely and easily surfing the Internet. To suggest a topic for a future column or to share an interesting Web site with others, e-mail: 5adair@cox.net.

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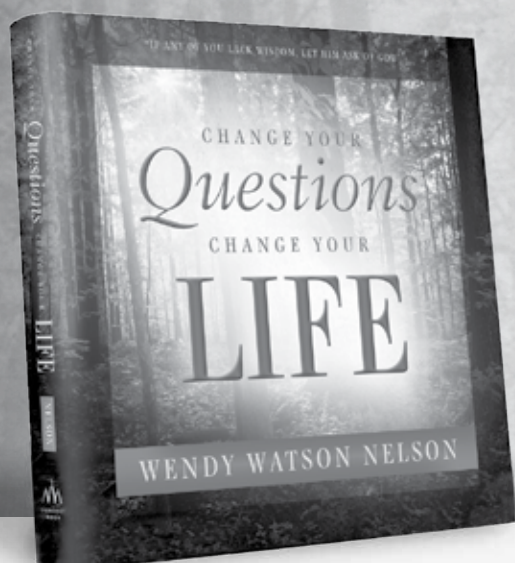
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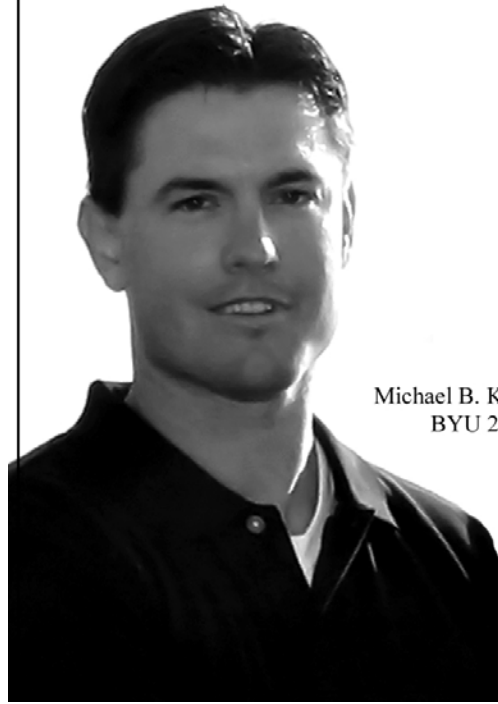
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John Bytheway & Lacey Nymeyer join Young Women's Conference Lineup

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

At this summer's "Time to Blossom" Young Women's Conference, girls will be treated to a week of fun activities and testimony-building experiences. In addition, they will enjoy presentations by some of the most popular youth speakers in the Church, including two recently added to the lineup: John Bytheway and Lacey Nymeyer.

A well-known author and motivational speaker, John

Bytheway's presentations have entertained and inspired thousands of youth. His love for the scriptures is contagious, and he helps young people understand how the universal messages of the scriptures can help them through life's difficulties.

The bestselling author of *A Crash Course in Teenage Survival* and several other books, John holds a master's degree in Religious Education from Brigham Young University, where he currently teaches. He and his wife, Kimberly, have six children.

Lacey Nymeyer was recently named the 2009 NCAA Women's Athlete of the Year. A champion swimmer, she won a silver medal at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, has won five world championship medals and has set an American record in the 800m free relay.

A graduate of the University of Arizona, she was the university's swim team captain and led the team to their first NCAA Championship title in 2008. She was also a two-time NCAA national champion individually. As a member of the relay teams, Lacey has set American, NCAA and US Open records and is a 26-time All-American.

Lacey was thrilled to be invited to participate in the conference.

"I've noticed, especially in young girls, that many struggle with finding strength within themselves," Lacey says. She adds that girls often buy into certain stereotypes, "believing they have to look or act a certain way."



Photo courtesy of Lacey Nymeyer

Well-known author and speaker, John Bytheway, along with the 2009 NCAA Women's Athlete of the Year, Lacey Nymeyer (above), have joined the lineup other popular speakers who will be part of the weeklong Time to Blossom 2010 Young Women's Conference in Mesa.

Lacey says the conference is "a great opportunity for girls to come and to feel empowered and to learn that they don't need to measure themselves by the world's standards."

She says, "If they feel self-worth within, they won't have to look for outside approval."

Other speakers include Lindsey Brinton, America's 2008 Junior Miss; author, entrepreneur and former Mrs. Utah, Vivian Cline; TV co-host and writer, Sherrie Natrass; singer and songwriter, Michele Baer; and others.

Girls will learn the how-to's of makeup, fashion and modeling. They will enjoy entertainment, service opportunities and activities that will boost confidence and increase testimonies.

Conference cofounders, Carla Jorgensen and Debbie Forrest, both from Mesa, say: "We want girls to realize that each one of

them is unique and each one of them has their own mission and path in life and their inner beauty comes as they live into that mission and as they live true to who they are and develop the spirit from within."

"Time to Blossom," for girls 11 to 15, will be held June 14 through 18, at the Mesa Hilton Hotel.

"There will be an emphasis on LDS standards and reinforcing the gospel principles of the LDS Church."

Along with top-quality speakers, the conference also will include a comedy night, a pajama party and more. For details about the speakers, a list of activities, and registration information, visit www.timetoblossom.com.

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A Single Story

by Michelle Thompson

Why Is A Pretty Girl Like You Not Married?

The other day I was eating lunch at Anzio Landing. Sitting across from me was a sweet-spirited couple twirling their pasta and gazing adoringly into one another's eyes. I couldn't help but sigh and smile at the romance oozing from their every pore. All seemed right with the world until I saw the sweet-spirited male pull a diamond engagement ring from his pocket.

I don't know what came over me, but before I knew what was happening, my eyes grew narrow, my face swelled red, and my mouth spewed vile words of irritation. Most was in a language I still have yet to define, but the gist of it was "Are you kidding me! How can THEY be getting engaged? I'm pretty. I'm smart. I'm a catch. How is it that Mr. and Mrs. Sweet-Spirit are engaged and I'm not?"

I lay in bed that night thinking about how happy and blissful the sweet-spirited couple looked, and why that can't be me? The portly, skinny, dopey, silly and sweet-spirited all seem to be finding their perfect mates. At one time or another I have been all those things, so why is it that they are blessed with the gift of marriage while I'm not?

The next morning, while thumbing through an old Ensign, I came across

an article by Henry B. Eyring, entitled "Adversity." The topic intrigued me because, to some talking about one's longing for marriage can seem dull or uninspired, and so to avoid embarrassment or boredom, the topic is avoided

all together. Still, the emotions attached to that longing will eventually be heard, in one form or another (i.e. vile words of irritation). Therefore, the only way to avoid the one-form-or-another is by facing the adversity of being a non-married LDS member head-on. As Elder Eyring states, "I bear you my testimony that God the Father lives. He set a course for each of us that can polish and perfect us to be with Him. I testify that the Savior lives. His Atonement makes possible our being purified as we keep His commandments and our sacred covenants. And I know from my own experience that He can and will give us strength to rise through every trial. . . . This is the Lord's true Church in which we are, with Him, lifting each

other and being blessed to succor the fellow sufferers He places in our way."

No matter the frustration one may feel about the adversity of being a non-married LDS member, it is always encouraging to know that you're not in it alone. If we choose to continue faithfully, exercising in the atonement, we are assured that He will "polish and perfect us to be with Him." To be with Him, to me, means having peace. Peace of mind. Peace and comfort. Peace in knowing that one day I will be the sweet-spirit accepting an engagement ring over a bowl of Anzio Landing pasta.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas for Michelle, please e-mail them to: single.story@yahoo.com.



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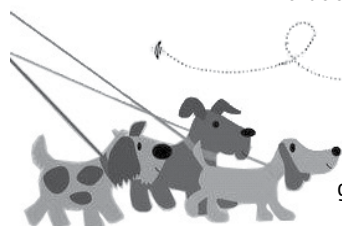
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IN THE MOMMY ZONE...

By Kristie Young Fairbanks

The Compass

Yesterday, my kindergartener bounded off the bright yellow school bus, waving her arms high above her head. One of her tiny hands was clenched tight into a fist.

"Mom!" she shrieked excitedly as she entered the mini van. "The girls won the most table points this week in class and I got to pick from the teacher's treasure box!"

She was so thrilled she could hardly contain herself, brightly beaming as her older brothers looked longingly at her cinched fist.

"See? It's a compass!" she screeched, sneaking from behind my buckled seat to shove a tiny trinket in front of my face.

"How exciting!" I replied, gently taking hold of her arm and placing it at a safe distance. "I'll take a good look at it when we get home."

A few minutes later, we were inspecting the instrument together. I noticed that her treasure was smoothed, shiny and black, with gold trimmed letters reading North, South, East, and West. There were also two thick black arrows boldly pointing North. My daughter drew in a deep breath, whisked it out of my hand and dashed out the back door without a word.

I watched her through the window as she pointed the gadget towards the mountains near our home, then at the barn and finally back towards the house. She seemed determined to use it to find something of value.

She shook it a few times and banged it against the wooden deck. I wondered what she was up to. She threw it across the dry wash in the backyard, scrambling over the rocks in a frantic search. Then taking one last, long look at her new trinket, a frowning pout crossed her face.

The next thing I knew, she was back inside. "It's broken," she announced with a heavy heart, dropping it into my palm.

I examined her compass closely and found that the stately spindles I had spied earlier were not really arrows at all, just two painted pointers aiming Northward. It was a fake!

That toy trinket got me thinking.

As parents, we try our best to instill a "compass" into our children, an "internal compass," that is uniquely and divinely inspired. We try to teach them, guide them, orient them, and steer them in the right direction.

Our goal is to help them aim their compass to point North, directing our offspring in the best possible way to travel along life's path. We dearly hope that their spindles will be of use and will lead them in the right direction towards happiness and security.

Through much trial and error, we seek to guide our children to pattern their lives after goodness, coaching them to orientate their compass on paths of honor and virtue. We choose worthy destinations on which they can set their coordinates, as we seek together to determine the best route for their journey ahead.

Sometimes, internal compasses can get off track and target unknown, fake trails and routes that might meander and wind. Life offers many twists and turns that tempt and try. As parents, it is our responsibility to help our youngsters keep their scope on track and focused towards a precise destination, letting them know their compass will always point them back towards home if they wander.

I now look at the toy device differently. After reexamining its worth, I feel that it has priceless value to me as a mother.

It stands as a vividly tangible reminder that if I can keep my own internal compass always pointed North and armed with the right coordinates, then I can in turn help my six children align their tools to true orientations and follow the path that is reserved for each of them.

Everyone has a different journey to take in this life. If we each fix our spindles to always aim towards true North, as

my daughter's trinket does, choosing to correct our global positions if we veer off course, then we will someday reach our final destinations.

My kindergartener's compass isn't broken! It works all too well, helping me keep my own spindles in check. So even if they go askew, my mandrels can be reconfigured Northward, and continue on, as straight as the arrow.



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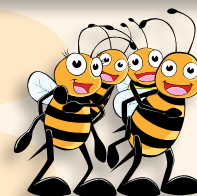
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Aims to Offer Best Cruises & Tours at Low Prices

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Every month, Fun For Less Tours takes 400 to 500 people to somewhere in the world.

Many of the trips are to religious sites, such as the tours to Israel, Book of Mormon Lands, and LDS Church history sites.

They also have African safari, Utah Shakespearean Festival, and Bali Island tours and offer one of the few cruises to actually go through the Panama Canal each year. In addition, Fun For Less Tours takes groups on Mediterranean cruises and tours, as well as to Hawaii, Egypt, South America, Thailand and nearly every conceivable destination.

"We have put together excellent tours," says Eric Towner, Sales and Marketing Manager. On their tours to religious sites, he says, "We have the very best combination of LDS author lecturers and speakers."

These author/speaker escorts include Dr. S. Michael Wilcox, Dr. John Lund, Dr. Richard Holzapfel, Jack Marshall

and more.

"These are educators that any tour company would love to have work for them. We are fortunate to have them with us," Eric says, emphasizing, "A tour is a tour, but an educated leader escort can make an average tour a special tour."

Fun For Less Tours started 10 years ago and is a family-owned and operated company based in Draper, Utah.

"After 2001 and that mess with 911, we decided that people didn't want to travel out of the country or deal with all that was going on." So, they put together a tour to the Nauvoo Open House and, "We took 5,000 people that summer," Eric says.

Since then, the company has continued to abide by its founding philosophy.

"We strive to provide the best tours for the least amount of money," Eric says.

In order to keep costs down, Fun For Less Tours negotiates all of their in-country tours themselves, booking their own



Photo courtesy of Fun For Less Tours

Owners of Fun For Less Tours, Carol and Jim Tyndall, play with tigers at Tiger Temple in Chiang Mai, Thailand, one of the many destinations where Fun For Less Tours takes travelers each year.

hotels and bus transportation and doing their own negotiating with airlines and cruise ships.

"That way we are able to pass the savings on to our travelers," Eric says.

They've also considered their customers' needs and comfort as they have "invested a lot into our radio receivers and portable speakers, so people can hear better," Eric explains. "We do whatever is necessary so people can get the best experience possible."

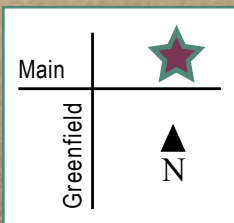
In addition, "We don't send you off to

find for yourselves, we escort that tour fully all the way through."

Their Web site, www.funforlesstours.com, lists tour dates and other information. They also send out quarterly travel booklets and are happy to add anyone who is interested to their mailing list.

Most of all, Eric says, "We'd love to have people just call and talk to us and let us explain the tour they are interested in."

Fun For Less Tours can be reached toll free at 800-591-2432.



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Gila Valley Couple Find Joy in **SERVING** the **LORD**

By Tina Scott
The Beehive

Roy and Patty Curtis of Thatcher 3rd Ward, Thatcher Stake, caught the missionary spirit while visiting a Church history site.

"We had always talked about going on a mission," says Sister Curtis, "but it was always 'someday.'" And, after Roy retired, they decided to travel first.

One of their travels took them to Montana to visit their daughter and then to Martin's Cove. "We really felt the spirit there, and from then on our focus kind of changed," says Patty. They came home and filled out mission papers, knowing they wanted to "jump right in" and serve for 23 months.

They were called to the California Oakland Mission. "It was an exciting surprise," says Patty. "I was born and raised in Oakland. I watched the temple be built there, and my family all still lives in the area. I wasn't a member until I was in my 30s and living in Tahoe. When I got my endowments, I went to the Oakland Temple, and I always consider it *my* temple."

"We were called to a proselytizing mission, so we envisioned knocking on doors," says Roy. They ended up doing

much more.

Although neither of them spoke fluent Spanish, they were assigned to attend the Spanish branch. "We learned to know and love [them] and their willingness to serve. Their new members would come right in and then go out as branch missionaries," says Brother Curtis.

Patty adds, "There are just so many wonderful stories of our branch—of the growth of the wonderful people that we worked with. Not just baptizing one or two, but baptizing families."

For a brief time, they were asked to go to Chinatown and help with the English program. "When we got a feel for that," says Sister Curtis, "we adapted a program called the 'Daily Dose' to the Latino communities, and we got the elders and sisters to facilitate the classes."

"We had several baptisms that came as a result," says Roy. "We taught them that God would help them learn English if they would pray. They thought that made sense and wanted all the help they could get."

After implementing the English program, the Curtises were assigned to start an addiction recovery program in one of the areas. "There was at least one baptism

that came out of it," says Patty. "It's very similar to AA, but the spirit is so strong and so special. It's indescribable."

During their first Christmas, the Curtises also were also asked to help at the Oakland Temple Visitors' Center and, toward the latter part of their mission, they spent approximately 30 hours a week there plus their other duties with the addiction recovery and English programs. Skilled in electronics, Roy put together DVDs for the Visitors' Center, was instrumental in getting the satellite hooked up, and made pass-along cards for the English program.

While they had choice experiences in each of their assignments, Patty especially enjoyed sharing the gospel with her parents. "They would come to the Visi-

tors' Center and go to programs, so they were able to experience a little bit more of what we believe," says Patty. "One of the highlights was on one of our last days there, they came to church to the Spanish branch. That was really a neat thing to be able to share with them."

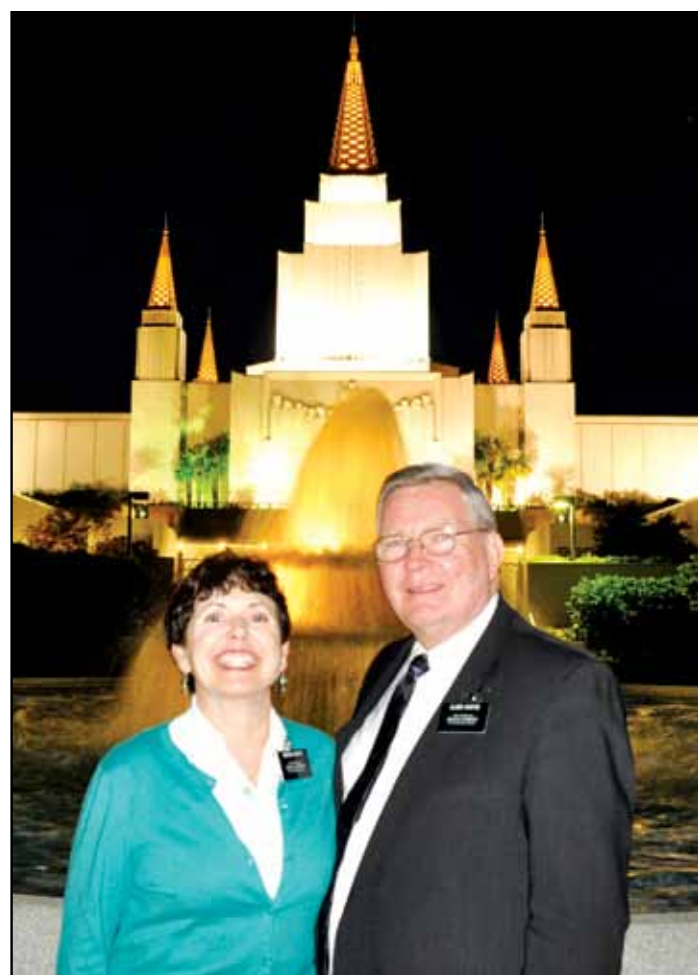


Photo courtesy of Patty Curtis

Roy and Patty Curtis found joy in serving in the Oakland California mission and helping at the Oakland Temple Visitors' Center.

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Keller Williams Arizona Realty

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arizonarealtytempe.yourKWoffice.com
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Las Vegas Real Estate- Russell Taylor

LasVegasRealEstate@mac.com
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